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Hebrew heard in cartel's kill camp

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug 23 (AP)—The Foreign Ministry issued a statement today saying any Israelis who may be training hit squads for Colombian drug cartels were acting on their own violation of the law and contrary to policy.

The statement came a day after NBC News in the United States screened a film purportedly showing training for drug cartel assassins at a recent base in Colombia and said some of the trainers were Israelis and South Africans.

In the film, shown on government-run Israel Television Tuesday, one man pictured in a group wearing fatigues could be heard speaking Hebrew, saying it was a "good exercise" and everything went well.

The government statement said Israel was investigating the case and would take all steps to prevent such activities by Israeli citizens.

The national police asked through Interpol, the international law enforcement agency, that Colombia provide Israel with any information on involvement of its citizens in training for drug cartel assassins, a police spokesman said.

A government official, who declined to be named on condition of anonymity, said Israelis involved in training drug assassins might be violating their country's laws against export of military information or aiding drug traffickers.

"If the reports about Israelis allegedly involved in paramilitary training in Colombia are true, they pertain to individuals who are acting on their own," the Foreign Ministry statement said.

"Such actions would be in violation of Israeli law and contrary to Israeli policy, which is strongly committed to the war on drugs."

It added: "The Foreign Ministry, along with other ministries and relevant authorities, is checking the facts and will take all possible steps to prevent such activities."

Rape pays for 'crack'

DETROIT, Aug. 23, (UPI)—A woman and her male drug supplier face possible life prison terms for the rape of the woman's 13-year-old daughter in a swap to repay a crack cocaine debt.

Susan Barber, according to court records and testimony, gave her 13-year-old daughter to receive convicted rapist Anthony Sawyer to pay for drugs. After the child was raped in May 1988, testimony indicated that Barber left her victimized child alone while she went out with the attacker and got high.

Later, Barber had the girl lie to police and then tried to thwart Sawyer's prosecution, according to court and police records, the Detroit Free Press said in today's edition.

"This is just another example of the terrible power of crack cocaine," said assistant Wayne county prosecutor Kelly Ramsey.

Factions threaten Bush-backed fleet

UAE seeks Arab peacekeeping force

BEIRUT, Aug. 23, (Agencies)—Syria's leftist and Muslim militia allies threatened to shell a French flotilla assembling in the Mediterranean today, dubbing the mission off Lebanon "an act of aggression."

The bulk of a French naval military force formally on a mission aimed at providing relief aid to the embattled Lebanese Christians, cruised 100 nautical miles (180 km) off the country's coast late today, the Christian Voice of Lebanon said.

The radio said six of the eight-vessel French flotilla, including the

aircraft carrier Foch, carrying nearly 2,000 Marines, were located 100 nautical miles (180 km) from the Lebanese coast — effectively outside the range of Muslim and Syrian cannons that have kept Christian ports under constant bombardment.

US President George Bush said he had no problem with France sending warships to the Mediterranean, although pro-Iranian militants holding US hostages in Lebanon have reacted threateningly to that move.

"The French have had a longstanding history in Lebanon. They have tried to be a catalyst for peace in Lebanon," Bush said. "I am not about to criticize the French for what they are doing."

"I feel a certain frustration about Lebanon because we have not been able to be a catalyst for peace," Bush said, adding that the United States remains available to "consult with individual parties" in the region to try to resolve the civil war.

The Lebanese Nationalist Front, which groups 11 pro-Syrian factions, said in a statement the French move was tantamount to "an act of aggression directed against the people of Lebanon and the nation's sovereignty and independence."

It said the front's estimated 10,000 combatants have been placed on alert with orders to "deter violently such an aggression."

"Any French naval presence off the Lebanese coast will be shelled," the statement said.

The French government, it added, will be "held fully responsible for the repercussions resulting from any act of aggression."

Clash

Syria's allies do not have computerized radars capable of detecting ships and providing target data for long-range artillery.

Shiite Muslim leader Nabih Berri, whose Amal militia is one of the main factions in the Nationalist Front, said he has ordered his men in south Lebanon to "carry arms and join other Muslim and nationalist forces in confronting the new crusaders."

"We as nationalist and Muslim forces do not want a clash with France, but we have to defend our dignity and homeland," he said.

Earlier, the French Ambassador, Rene Ala said after meeting Syrian leader Gen. Michel Aoun that the French force would enter the territorial waters "tonight or early tomorrow morning."

Syrian and Christian forces clashed sporadically in and around Beirut, marring an informal ceasefire that followed an Aug. 15 call by the UN Security Council for an end to the five-month-old bloodshed.

Police reported one person was killed and 15 were wounded.

The European Economic Community's foreign ministers, meanwhile, called for an immediate ceasefire, and announced that they would dispatch a fact-finding mission to Beirut in the next few days.

Danger

In a statement issued in France, the current EEC President, the ministers said the situation in Lebanon was "fraught with danger," and "urgently appealed to all parties to cease all gunfire and bombing on land and sea and all forms of blockade."

Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan, President of the United Arab Emirates, was called for an emergency Arab summit to assign Arab peacekeeping troops to Lebanon, the Al Hawadess weekly reported today.

A Soviet envoy arrived in Damascus today for talks on Lebanon, the Syrian official media reported. It said Genadi Terrosov, an assistant foreign minister, met with Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa.

Eau-de-soap Hijack a wash

ALGIERS, Aug. 23, (Reuters)—An Algerian expelled from France hijacked an Air France flight today by threatening to blow up the plane with a bar of soap from the plane's toilets, airport sources said.

The hijacker, a 30-year-old shopkeeper named Said Jamel, stopped off the Airbus at Algiers airport brandishing a plastic bag with the soap and a bottle of eau-de-toilette to give an impromptu news conference.

Shortly before he was arrested by Algerian police, he told a crowd of journalists on the tarmac he had wanted to draw attention to the situation in Palestine and Lebanon.

Jamel, described by French radio as "mentally deranged", had been placed on the flight by police at Paris' Orly Airport after being expelled from France for "disorderly conduct."

The unarmed hijacker gave himself up at Algiers after brief negotiations with Algerian officials.

Before being taken away by police, Jamel told reporters he had originally planned to force the plane to fly to the eastern Algerian port of Annaba (formerly Bone) but changed his mind and ordered it to return to Algiers.

A spokesman for Air France said all 107 passengers and 13 crew on board were unharmed.



No relief in sight
A Christian woman stands with her husband and children at a Lebanese coast. The woman is looking through binoculars to check if any of the eight-ship French fleet supposed to be arriving off the Lebanese coast appears. (Reuters wirephoto)

Cory rejects Red 'coalition'

MANILA, Aug. 23, (Reuters)—Philippine President Corason Aquino has flatly rejected the possibility of a coalition government with communist rebels.

Asked if she was open to unconditional peace talks with guerrillas fighting a 20-year insurgency, Aquino said in a television interview last night: "That is very difficult because I think we have very opposing agendas here."

"Even in the definition of peace maybe we have different interpretations of how we should attain (it)," she said. "If it's a question of their wanting to be part of a coalition government, definitely that is a no-no."

The rebels have said they want a peace settlement followed by power-sharing.

On the future of US military

bases in the country, Aquino said she told US congressmen recently that even if no agreement was reached she hoped Manila and Washington would still be friends.

A lease on Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base expires in 1991 and preliminary talks on extending it are scheduled to begin in December.

"There is a possibility that we will agree and there is also the possibility that we will not come to an agreement," Aquino said she told the congressmen in Manila.

Philippine communists led by a woman killed 14 people, including six children, when they fired on houses of former supporters, the military and survivors said today.

The children, aged from eight

months to 10 years, died along with their parents in the attack on Sunday in Misamis Occidental province, 700 km (450 miles) southeast of Manila, the military said.

"Look at what happened to your relatives for supporting the government," survivor Demetria Tumagna quoted one of the rebels as telling her after the attack.

Forty-one people were killed on June 25 when guerrillas fired on worshippers inside a village chapel in southern Davao Del Sur province.

The military said Sunday's victims were members of the Subanon tribe in Potugan village near Dipolog who were formerly guerrilla supporters but had switched their loyalty to the government.

NEWSWATCH

Short-term relief: A drug to treat depression has been found to provide short-term relief for women who suffer from a bizarre condition marked by an irresistible impulse to pull out their own hair, scientists said on Wednesday.

The condition, trichotillomania, may afflict as many as two million to four million American women, said Susan Swedo, a researcher at the child psychiatry branch of the National Institutes of Study, who led the study published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

In the study, researchers compared the new antidepressant clomipramine with desipramine, an older antidepressant, (Reuters)

Peace talks boycotted: Parliament in the breakaway Turkish Cypriot state decided on Wednesday to boycott UN-sponsored peace talks, demanding withdrawal of a document presented by the United Nations chief. (AP)

Connecticut still the richest: Connecticut continued to lead the American states in average incomes last year, while Mississippi remained at the bottom of per capita income list, the government said Wednesday. (AP)

New drug slightly better: An experimental new drug narrowly outperforms aspirin in preventing strokes in high-risk patients, researchers said on Wednesday. "The drug, ticlopidine, was found to be somewhat more effective than aspirin in reducing the risk of death from any cause or the risk of nonfatal stroke" in patients with early warning signs of stroke, said the researchers in a report in the New England Journal of Medicine. (Reuters)



Hello.... goodbye
East German refugees, who escaped to Austria through the loosely-guarded Hungarian border, wave from a special train taking them to Giessen refugee camp in West Germany, as they leave Vienna railway station. (Reuters wirephoto)

Singh's son to detail accounts

Bank operated up to Aug 1988

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

NEW DELHI, Aug. 23: The Arab Times has learned from sources close to V.P. Singh that his son, Ajaya, is likely to present an audited statement of his bank accounts to a press conference in New York today.

Ajaya Singh was allegedly the holder of a \$21 million St Kitts account shared by V.P. Singh.

The allegations against V.P. Singh, first published by the Arab Times, said that Singh had allegedly made six deposits between Sept. 16, 1986 and March 26, 1987, at the First Trust Corporation Limited in the Caribbean island of St Kitts.

The pro-opposition daily Indian Express, in a front page story today disputed the report but failed to produce facts to refute it. "Not only the account, but the bank as well is untraceable," said the Indian Express.

The paper has now established that the bank where V.P. Singh had allegedly deposited the \$21 million, did in fact exist but had closed shop in August, 1988, after being in business for almost three years.

Meanwhile, members of Indian Parliament and most daily newspapers today maintained silence about the report on V.P. Singh's alleged foreign bank account, an indication that they have reservations about the report, analysts said.

Singh has dismissed the report describing it as a "fabrication." Singh and other leaders from his Janata Dal opposition party accused Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the ruling Congress (I) Party of masterminding a campaign to discredit opposition leaders. They charged the Congress (I) Party with using the Criminal Bureau of Investigation and the Indian intelligence agency known as Research Analysis Wing and collaborators such as Chandraswami, a wealthy Indian power broker, as tools in their unscrupulous schemes.

Observers say that Indian political scene is rife with intrigue and accusations. Some newspapers have expressed reservations about the report discrediting Singh.

"We just feel we will never get to the bottom of this," said an editor at the pro-government Times of India which decided not

to follow the story.

Other publications were puzzled by the lack of reaction from Members of Parliament who, they say, are usually quick to offer comment.

"This means they don't trust the report," said an editor at the Sunday Observer.

The Indian Express said that its Aug. 20 report claiming that the government plans to plant a story about V.P. Singh's alleged foreign account was vindicated. Analysts say rumours to that effect have been circulating in Delhi for three months.

Quoting unspecified government sources, the Indian Express now claims that "information" containing remarks attributed to President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire will be soon floated to give credibility to allegations against Singh.

Zaire is mentioned in the Arab Times report as one of India's copper suppliers. The report, quoting Indian political sources, suggested that Singh illegally obtained funds through commodities deals, including the one for copper from Zaire, sealed in 1985.

The Indian Express went on to say that Mobutu is a close associate of Chandraswami.

Chandraswami who was today out of Delhi could not be reached by the Arab Times.

Reuters adds: Singh told reporters: "India's politics has touched an unprecedented low. Thanks to (Prime Minister) Rajiv Gandhi the ruling party is now really going out of its way to malign the opposition."

"Rajiv has a lot of enemies. But he has a lot of powerful friends too. They would make sure that I am discredited in the public eye by hook or crook."

Singh has led a crusade against corruption in public life since quitting Rajiv's government in early 1987 and has emerged as the most important opposition leader in the country.

He has also challenged Rajiv to a national television debate on corruption, especially allegations that million of dollars were paid in kickbacks in defence deals.

The offer of debate was first made by Rajiv but his party has now said Rajiv is far too big a leader to discuss such issues on television with Singh.

70 die in Lanka's day of carnage

COLOMBO, Aug. 23, (Agencies)—At least 70 Sri Lankans were killed in 24 hours ending today and many of their bodies were found charred beyond recognition, dumped in pits or at the roadside, military sources said today.

The death toll marked a sharp increase on previous average daily killings reported by the military and suggested further intensification of the war between the government and leftwing Sinhalese rebels.

The sources and citizens said 40 bodies of unidentified people, some burned, were found in various areas late yesterday and 17 bodies were found on the roadside in the western Gampaha district.

In a previously reported incident within the same period, 10 other bodies, again mostly charred, were found in a pit at Athurugiriya just south of Colombo yesterday.

The military sources could not say who was responsible.

Opposition politicians have blamed the killings on pro-government groups they say are hunting members and supporters of the People's Liberation Front with the help of servicemen.

The military has been reporting an average of over 20 killings daily in violence connected to the front.

Police said seven of their men and a civilian driver were killed in a front ambush at Matugama in the south today. Six soldiers died in a similar attack yesterday.

The latest spiral of violence has in part been generated by the JVP's ultimatum that all security personnel resign by last Sunday or face retaliation against themselves and their families.

Thousands of relatives of military and police personnel moved for protection into armed compounds and requisitioned buildings around the JVP-active south and central areas of the island republic.

Security forces have since shown little restraint in using their emergency powers against the JVP, whose members are mostly disaffected students from the Buddhist Sinhalese majority, outraged by the government's handling of a Tamil rebellion in the northeast and its inability to meet their aspirations.

The front, a Sinhalese group trying to oust the government in a two-year-old campaign, was also blamed by the military for most of the other killings reported in the past 24 hours.

The rebel campaign has crippled government rule in several areas and hit commercial activity.

■ Sri Lankan President Ranasinghe Premadasa has conveyed to India his revised proposal for the withdrawal of the Indian Peace Keeping Force (IPKF) and power devolution process of the northeast provincial council, a statement released by the presidential secretariat said today.

Premadasa's statement made no mention what the new proposals were, which followed talks India and Sri Lanka had in New Delhi in the beginning of the month except to say that the Lankan President had "sought especially to ensure that the country's sovereignty was recognized, safeguarded and maintained while the withdrawal of the IPKF proceeded on an accelerated basis."

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Top Pakistani businessman abducted in Karachi

KARACHI, Aug. 23, (AP)—Investigators searched today for a prominent businessman who was abducted from his home by gunmen, apparently for ransom, police said.

Seven men snatched Mohammad Sikander, 43, from his car as he pulled up to his house in Karachi shortly late last night, police said.

The Sikander-Benz auto dealer and real estate developer, reportedly is a close friend of Asif Zardari, the husband of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto.

"He's been kidnapped for ransom. We're hoping to recover him," said Assad Ashraf Malik, deputy inspector general of Karachi's police. He declined to describe any ransom demand or what clues police might have.

Syed Quaim Ali Shah, Chief Minister of Pakistan's Sindh province, called a meeting of law enforcement agencies today to discuss the case, Malik said.

According to police and witnesses, the gunmen forced Sikander into a car despite the presence of a dozen private security guards around his residence and nearby auto dealership.

Book based on published matter: Malik

ISLAMABAD, Aug 23. (KUNA): The editor of a local evening newspaper, the "Pakistan Observer," Zahid Malik, accused of divulging state secrets in a recent book, said today all the material in his book was taken from stories published by Pakistani and foreign newspapers and his personal observations.

Addressing a press conference, Malik, who was released from jail on the orders of the Lahore High Court on Monday, said he had been arrested by the Federal Investigation Agency for disclosing state secrets

in his book titled: "Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan and Islamic Bomb."

He should have been questioned during his police custody by the agency officials about the contents of the book.

But, Malik added, 99 per cent of questions asked of him during his arrest period were about his newspaper.

It was totally wrong and baseless to describe him as pro-Islami Jamhoori (Islamic) journalist or beneficiary of Punjab Chief Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, he said.

"The Pakistan Observer," Malik said, "was an independent paper and opposed the PPP government on certain issues on the basis of principles and not at the behest of the IJI."

The editor, who is also the owner of the Eveningstar said that his arrest was pre-planned and intended to teach him a lesson for his criticism of PPP policies. Before his arrest he received threats, his telephone was tapped and his advertisement were stopped by the federal government.

The FIA arrested Malik, reputedly a

pro-IJI journalist, for publishing state secrets about Pakistan's nuclear programme.

Among other things he wrote it was true that Pakistan's nuclear programme was weapon-oriented and that Pakistan's top nuclear scientist Abdul Qadeer Khan was the maker of the so-called "Islamic Bomb."

Asked if he would produce Qadeer Khan as his defence witness, Malik replied "A Q is a national hero and need not be called into court."

Poison in corn from US

WASHINGTON, Aug 23. (AP): Early detection of aflatoxin, a cancer-causing substance, prompted cancellation of some recent shipments of American corn to Japan, Saudi Arabia and Spain, and a US inspector has gone to India to check complaints of contaminated corn there, an Agriculture Department official said.

The grain sent to India under an American aid programme in June was also inspected before leaving the United States and all samples tested free of aflatoxin contamination and fit for human consumption, said Steve Tanner of the department's federal grain inspection service.

After delivery, the Indian grain co-operation marketing federation complained of aflatoxin contamination to Lyle Sabranek, agricultural counsellor of the American embassy in New Delhi, the Indian embassy in Washington said.

The embassy had no additional details but Tanner said the US inspector and other American and Indian officials are investigating.

The report from India prompted the Agriculture Department to recheck its samples of the shipment, confirming that the corn was uncontaminated at the time it left Seattle, Tanner said.



Relatives pay tribute

Relatives of those killed on Pan Am Flight 103 paid tribute on Wednesday to the people of Lockerbie, the small Scottish town where the plane's fiery wreckage crashed

Relatives of victims lay a wreath of 270 red roses, one for each person killed, on the memorial in Lockerbie's cemetery (Reuters wirephoto)

Ershad offers amnesty to tribal rebels up to Sept 30

DHAKA, Aug 23. (AP): President Hussain Muhammad Ershad today announced a general amnesty, to last until Sept 30, to tribal rebels operating in Bangladesh's eastern hill region.

A statement issued by the president's secretariat said the government would also give land and money to rebels who surrendered before Sept 30.

A previous amnesty offer coincided with elections in June to local government councils

in three eastern districts. The elections were aimed at giving limited autonomy to the tribes.

There was little response to the previous amnesty offer.

The president's statement, in the Bengali language, said the government hoped the rebels would "give up their arms and return to normal life since a peaceful favourable condition exists in the Hill Tracts after the June 25 election."

The mainly Buddhist tribes live in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, a jungle-covered range along the borders with India and Burma. Militants from the tribes have been fighting for an independent nation since 1974, claiming the tribal identity and language was being swamped by Muslim settlers from other parts of the country.

At least 4,000 people have been killed in raids on Muslim settlements and reprisals by government troops.

Kashmir prohibits violence coverage

SRINAGAR, Aug 23. (Agencies): Legislators in Jammu and Kashmir overrode fierce criticism from journalists and opposition members and approved today a bill which prohibits news reporting on violent incidents in the northern state.

Pakistan claims sovereignty over the Himalayan state, which throughout summer has been rocked by protests from Islamic fundamentalists in the mostly Muslim Kashmir valley, and in recent weeks, by Buddhist demonstrators in the northern region of Ladakh.

The state's ruling coalition of the National Conference Party and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party held it was necessary to ban reporting on the agitation because they claimed news coverage fuelled more violence and gave publicity to extremists.

Under the proposed legislation, journalists who "contravene, disobey or neglect to comply with the directive" by reporting on any extremist activity will be liable to a one-year jail term and a Rs10,000 (\$6,250) fine.

It also empowers state authorities to ban a printer, publisher or editor from working for three months, a period which could be extended to six months.

The ruling coalition used its overwhelming majority in the state's 78-seat lower house to pass the Jammu and Kashmir powers (press) bill, prompting opposition members to walk out of the chamber in Srinagar.

Journalists torched copies of the bill outside the assembly and planned to stage a protest rally tomorrow to try and stop the legislation from being cleared by the upper house.

Local newspapers carried editorials blaming Chief Minister Farooq Abdullah for the deteriorating law and order situation in the strategic state, which borders Pakistan and China and has been a battleground in the three wars India has fought against Pakistan since 1948.

"The bill is to cover up Farooq Abdullah's own follies and incompetence in curbing terrorism in Kashmir," the Srinagar Times newspaper said in an editorial.

Muslim radicals advocating Kashmir to be united with Pakistan have in the past year escalated their agitation, and police blame them for 170 bomb blasts and scores of fatalities in India's only Islamic-majority state.

The disturbances have also deterred tourists from travelling to the pristine Alpine region, causing a significant drop in the state's main revenue source.

New Delhi claims Islamabad is training and funding the radicals, a charge Pakistan denies. It charges that India should determine the sovereignty issue by holding in Kashmir a plebiscite, which had been called by the United Nations after a 1948 war over the region.

The possibility of an agreement between India and Pakistan on Siachen glacier issue appears to be receding.

The nature of difference between the two sides on the issue indicate that things have not been smooth in the recent round of talks, held in Islamabad last week.

Even Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who visited Siachen glacier yesterday along with her top Army officials, have admitted that there was not much headway in the talks between the two countries on Siachen.

Hopes were high in July when Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi visited Pakistan and it was agreed to hold meeting of senior Army officials for deployment of troops on the ground.

However, New Delhi is hopeful that ongoing series of negotiations might eventually lead to some positive result.

Cocaine haul: West German police seized a 650 kg consignment of cocaine — the second largest haul ever in Europe — believed to have originated from the Colombian Medellin drug cartel, a spokesman said today.

The spokesman for criminal police in the West German state of Bavaria said West German and Dutch police, assisted by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration had been tracking drug dealers for over a month before yesterday's haul.

"The name Medellin cartel came up in connection with this affair. We assume the cartel were pulling the strings," the spokesman told United Press International. (UPI)

Perez calls for: Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez has called for a summit of American states to discuss ways to fight drug trafficking, which he described as the most abominable crime of our time.

"We have suggested at the American level a summit of all the countries of the region to find ways that would make us all define (drug trafficking) as a crime without frontiers and to fight it," Perez told reporters late yesterday.

"We must fight drug trafficking, which is the most abominable crime of our time," he added. President Perez did not give further details. (Reuters)

Speculations dismissed: Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu says in a published interview that it is insane to speculate about his country's nuclear weapon capabilities but stops short of denying that Romania has or wants such arms.

The weekly Danas raised the issue following months of rumours that communist Romania has or is building nuclear weapons. The rumours were fuelled after Ceausescu asserted in April that his country has the potential to manufacture such arms.

"There always are insane people who speculate," Ceausescu told Danas. "I do not even wish to discuss this, to lower myself to such a level." (AP)

Scathing attack: A UN-commissioned report on the human rights situation of the world's younger people has been turned by its Romanian author into a fierce and highly emotional denunciation of Romania's communist leadership.

The report accuses the country's leaders of being megalomaniacs, ruling by fear and practicing corruption while the people suffer abject poverty.

The report on "Human rights and youth," made public yesterday as an official UN document, was written by a Professor Dumitru Mazilu, who has been held incommunicado in his homeland since receiving the mandate in 1986 to compile the report. (AP)

Commuters warned: The State Department issued an advisory yesterday warning travellers of possible disruptions in rail service in the Republic of Ireland and Ulster by bomb threats and small explosions caused by the provisional Irish Republican Army.

The State Department travel advisory said that the explosives have been placed on the tracks and not on the trains. There have been no injuries or deaths reported, but the announcement said that travellers should be prepared for delays and should follow the advice of authorities.

The threats, said the announcement, have been frequently aimed at the main Belfast-Dublin line, and British Rail Authorities have been providing alternative bus service through threatened areas. (UPI)



Stands in attention

Former American film star Shirley Temple Black (right), named US ambassador to Czechoslovakia, stands at attention during the reviewing of the guard in Prague today. She was on her way to present her credentials to President Gustav Husak. (Reuters wirephoto)

Compensations made: More than 1 million pounds (\$1.58 million) has been paid by British authorities in compensation for death and injuries caused by plastic bullets fired in Northern Ireland, the Independent reported today.

This unpublished statistics emerged from an investigation by the London daily into the use of the controversial weapon in Northern Ireland where the outlawed Irish Republican Army is fighting to oust British troops and unite the province with the Irish Republic.

Plastic bullets, or Baton Rounds as the Royal Ulster Constabulary calls them, are the standard security force riot weapon in Northern Ireland. Fired from a rifle, the plastic bullet is 4 inches (100 mm) long with a diameter of 1.5 inches. (UPI)

Houseboy claims: The houseboy at a posh Mexican villa where two men died said the men were tied up and shot in the head execution-style; it was reported today.

A news journal reporter interviewed houseboy Jaime Salgado Padilla, 18, at the Acapulco, Mexico, police station Monday night to learn more about the deaths of Washington millionaire Arthur Weiser, 55, and his companion, Edward Liss, 35.

Mexican authorities have said they have two suspects, who are believed to be male prostitutes, in the Aug 17 killings, but have made no arrests.

Salgado described himself as the only witness to the shootings and was detained as a suspect for three days. (UPI)

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NEW ITEMS

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Sultan of Brunei leads magazine's list of billionaires

NEW YORK, Aug 23, (AP) — The sultan of Brunei is the world's richest man, with oil and gas holdings and foreign investments worth \$25 billion, Fortune magazine says.

The Mars family of the United States, which owns 100 per cent of the Mars chocolate and candy manufacturing company, stands third on the list with \$12.5 billion, the bi-weekly publication says in its issue dated Sept. 11 and released yesterday.

Queen Elizabeth II of England, the

richest woman in the world, ranks fourth of the Fortune billionaires list, with \$10.9 billion. Her fortune is up from \$8.7 billion last year, Fortune estimates.

Since last year, 32 new billion-dollar fortunes have appeared on the magazine's list, while five have fallen off.

The total number of billion-dollar fortunes rose to 157, the magazine says. There are 58 in the United States, 54 in Europe, 23 in Asia (including 11 Japan-

ese), and 22 others.

Fortune says the list is limited to individuals and families with net worth — total assets after subtracting debt — of \$1 billion or more.

Queen's Elizabeth's stock portfolio rose in value by 25 per cent last year, and her art collection appreciated by 50 per cent, Fortune says.

Number five on the Fortune billionaires list is an American publishing duo, Samuel and Donald Newhouse, who own a newspaper empire worth

\$10 billion.

Sixth is Tsai Wan-Lin of Taiwan and his family, who own 65 per cent of Cathay Life Insurance. A newcomer this year to the Fortune list, Tsai ran a fruit and vegetable stand in his youth and is now worth \$9 billion.

Sam Walton, founder of Wal-Mart stores in the United States, ranks seventh with \$8.9 billion.

In eighth place is the Reichmann family of Canada, with \$8.4 billion. Ninth place goes to Britain's Gerald

Grosvenor and family, with \$6.9 billion.

The tenth spot is held by Canadian publishing tycoon Kenneth Roy Thomson and family, who also weigh in at \$6.9 billion.

Other prominent billionaires include Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands (\$4.4 billion), Taiwanese textile manufacturer Y.Z. Hsu (\$4.2 billion), Dutch clothing magnate Godfried Breminkmeijer (\$4 billion), Y.C. Wang and Y.T.

Wang and family of Taiwan (\$4 billion plastics fortune), and Johanna Quandt and family of West Germany (\$3.6 billion in BMW auto manufacturer and other enterprises).

Also on the list are the Bass family of Texas, Dallas businessman H. Ross Perot, Cosmetics Company owners Estee Lauder and family, Publisher Rupert Murdoch, Los Angeles businessman Marvin Davis, New York Developer Donald Trump, winemakers Ernest and Julio Gallo.

Forbes mum on write-off of party

NEW YORK, Aug 23, (AP) — Wealthy publisher Malcolm Forbes is being vague about whether he plans to seek a tax write-off for his Moroccan "party of the century," but opponents of a tax break are indignant at the idea of it.

"If this party were to be tax-deductible it would be a perfect example of how the (US) tax system is unfair to the average citizen and benefits the rich," said Michael Waldman, director of Public Citizen's Congress Watch, a consumer rights group based in Washington, DC.

The magazine publisher's 70th birthday in Tangier on the northern coast of Africa last weekend featured 600 belly dancers, 200 Berber horsemen, pigeon pie served under elaborate tents and a guest list that included Liz Taylor, Henry Kissinger, Rupert Murdoch, Barbara Walters, Beverly Sills and Donald Trump.

Guests were flown across the Atlantic on three jets, including a chartered supersonic Concorde. The cost of the party has been estimated at \$2 million to \$3 million.

US Congressman Fortney "Pete" Stark released a letter to Internal Revenue Service Commissioner Fred T. Goldberg yesterday saying he hopes the party is not tax-deductible.

The public's support of the tax system is destroyed by reports of tax-deductible birthday bashes by belly-dancing billionaires," he wrote.

Forbes magazine officials failed to return repeated phone calls yesterday seeking comment. The Washington Post newspaper on Monday quoted Forbes as saying that "some of it is a business expense."

"When you invite 300 CESS that you do business with, you want to make good impression," Malcolm Forbes Jr, who is the publisher's eldest son and the magazine's president, told the New York Times.

He said any deduction would be worked out by company accountants. The Times reported on Monday.

The IRS declined to comment on whether the cost of the party could be deducted from Forbes' taxes, but a spokesman pointed to pertinent sections of the US tax code.

Section 262 says that aside from a small exception involving telephones, "No deduction shall be allowed for personal, living or family expenses."

The IRS generally considers birthday parties to be personal expenses, said Sid Weinman, an attorney.

Section 274 says no deduction is allowed "with respect to an activity which is of a type generally considered to constitute entertainment, amusement, or recreation, unless the taxpayer establishes that the item was directly related to or ... associated with the active conduct of the taxpayer's trade or business."



Using his head

Young Arsenal fan James Roberts sports an unusual hat while attending Arsenal's first home game of the football season in London

Tuesday, Arsenal won their opener against Coventry 2-0. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bronx couple charged

NEW YORK, Aug 23, (Agencies) — For the nine children of Herman and Frances McMillan, authorities contend that home was like living in a chamber of horrors.

Police alleged that the couple from the New York City borough of the Bronx held their children captive in a small, squalid apartment where they were raped, sodomized or beaten.

Deputy chief Joseph Demartino, commander of Bronx detectives, said McMillan, 42, "was protective of his family."

"He believed his way of life was best, that he knew best how to educate his children. ... We don't have any information that they were hyper-religious, cultist," Demartino said.

The six boys and three girls never emerged from the filthy three-room apartment, where beatings were administered with fists or sticks and the children sometimes had their heads held underwater, police said.

The couple may have had three other babies who did not survive their first month and were secretly buried, the police contended.

The McMillan parents were arrested on Monday after three months of delicate questioning of the children disclosed the criminal allegations. The children have been in the city's custody since May.

"There were 11 people living in a darkened apartment with little access to the outside world," said Demartino. "They only knew this way of life. ... They were recluses. The husband would come and go occasionally. The wife remained in the apartment."

4-year-old shot by brother

Defiant parents relent

ORLANDO, Florida, Aug 23, (AP) — The parents of a 4-year-old girl whose brain was damaged when her brother accidentally shot her have dropped their opposition to moving her to Delaware for recommended therapy, a hospital spokeswoman says.

Surgeons at Orlando Regional Medical Centre said Evie Hagan has regained some movement after partial paralysis but needs extensive therapy.

Evie's shooting by her 6-year-old brother was one of several in the state of Florida this summer that prompted legislators to pass a law making it a crime for gun owners to leave loaded weapons where children can reach them.

Betty and David Hagan had abruptly canceled plans to send their daughter to the Alfred Dupont Institute in Wilmington, Delaware, saying they don't need to be separated from her.

The children remained in the apartment. They did little or nothing.

"The oldest children suffered most from the sexual abuse and the younger children from physical abuse," he said.

Apparently, he added, only the eldest girl had ever been to school.

Neighbours said McMillan never spoke and ignored greetings as he came and went in the building.

Police and city welfare officials went to the McMillans' one-bedroom apartment in the Highbridge section of the Bronx on May 25 after neighbours complained that the children were being neglected.

"Everybody knows that Evie is going to walk next month anyway, and we want God to get the credit, not man," Hagan said Monday. "It's trying our faith. We're not fanatical, we're just using wisdom."

Changed

The Hagans, however, changed their minds and decided yesterday to send the child to the Delaware facility, said Teresa L. Heavens, institute spokeswoman.

Earlier yesterday, Dr Joseph Chiaro, one of the child's three physicians, said at a news conference that doctors were considering asking the courts to intervene.

"To deny her the opportunity to maximise her potential does raise a lot of sadness and anger in me," Chiaro said. "I would like to see everything done for her because Evie is going to live with this decision."

They found the place dark and filthy, strewn with dirty clothes and newspapers, Demartino said. "No electricity, windows covered with dirty, ragged sheets and the children appeared frightened and dirty."

Social workers took the children in tow — boys aged 16, 12, 10, five and two years and a four-month-old, and girls of 14, eight and six years.

Detectives returned for the parents on Monday evening. They arrested the father on two counts of rape, four of sodomy, 13 of felonious assault, two of incest, two of reckless endangerment, nine of endangering the welfare of a minor and one of sexual abuse. The mother, 34,

was charged with two counts of assault and nine counts of endangerment.

Debra Kennedy, who lives on the same floor, said she heard occasional screams but thought McMillan lived alone and might be arguing with a visitor.

"There's so much domestic violence I thought they were just fighting," she said. "It didn't occur to me it was children."

Another three missing children were believed to have died at birth or in infancy, police said.

Police dug up a grassy lot near a Bronx motorway looking for the remains of children said to have been buried there in the past several years.

'Raiders' find 'lost arc' of Neptune

PASADENA, California, Aug 23, (UPI) — Searching for the "lost arc" of Neptune, NASA's Voyager 2 probe rediscovered a dim, hard-to-find patch of icy debris circling the planet, proving what had been thought to be a partial "ring arc" is instead an unbroken ring.

Voyager 2's small, 1970s-era computer was programmed to search for more evidence of ring material today as the spacecraft raced toward a low-altitude flyby of Neptune tomorrow that will cap a 12-year, once-in-a-lifetime grand tour of the outer solar system.

So far in the encounter, the hardy robot probe has discovered four new moons, pushing Neptune's total to six, a gigantic storm system in the planet's methane atmosphere similar to Jupiter's great red spot and evidence that the moon Triton has a transparent atmosphere and a surface that may be covered by methane snow or frost.

And yesterday, the spacecraft beamed back pictures showing a complete ring around Neptune, along with a broken, or partial, ring. More gossamer swaths of debris may be found after the flyby, when the distant sun lights them from behind.

Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and now Neptune all feature complete rings. Carolyn Porco, a planetary scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, said Neptune's rings could represent either end of an evolutionary process.

"I think it could be completely evolutionary," she said. "One thought that's been going through my mind is Neptune, for example, might be the terminus of this evolutionary sequence, although we don't know which terminus it is."

"Perhaps it's a ring system that hasn't formed yet, or perhaps it's the next step of having a full-fledged ring system like Saturn's or Uranus's, which has been worn away. That's a question that's hotly contested now in the ring community."

If all goes well, Voyager 2 will sail a scant 3,000 miles (4,800 km) above the clouds of Neptune tomorrow at about 3.55 p.m. before plunging southward behind the planet and onto a flyby of the moon Triton five hours after the close encounter with Neptune.

Scientists at JPL announced the discovery of two such partial rings Aug 11, but one of them, circling the planet at an altitude of about 17,000 miles (27,000 km), has not been photographed since.

Overnight Monday, Voyager 2 beamed back 55 pictures of the space around Neptune in a determined search for the "lost arc."

"More than one ring (arc) could be seen even in the raw images," astronomer Bradford Smith said at a news conference. "It seemed reasonable that this was indeed the lost arc that our imaging team raiders were looking for. The answer to that is yes and no."

"It is indeed in exactly the right place. The no is, it's not an arc, it goes all the way around, so it is Neptune's first complete ring."

Smith said the other, partial ring may be complete as well, but that is not yet clear.

"The inner arc, the one that we were unable to find since the discovery images, is there," he said. "It is continuous, all the way around, but with very low optical thickness."

Like Stone, Smith would not rule out the possibility that ring arcs as such never existed at all.

"That's getting into semantics," he said. "When is it a ring arc and when is it a complete ring? I think that if we can indeed photograph this outer ring ... and see material that goes all the way around, probably the term 'arc' will sort of fade away."

PEOPLE AND PLACES

LONDON: Royal aide Timothy Laurence whose stolen letters to Princess Anne sparked new rumours of trouble in her marriage, is to leave Buckingham Palace to become commander of a frigate, the Defence Ministry said Wednesday.

Laurence, 35, will leave the palace next month, attend a course for shore-based officers returning to sea and take command of the frigate HMS Baser Jan 30, the ministry said in a statement.

He has been an aide to Anne's mother Queen Elizabeth II, the past three years. He also holds the rank of a Royal Navy commander. (AP)

ORLANDO, Florida: A \$38.8 million hospital for critically ill newborns and women with high-risk pregnancies is preparing to open, thanks to fund-raising efforts by golfer Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children and Women is billed as one of only four of its kind in the nation. The 255-bed facility, which will serve all of Central Florida, is on the campus of the Orlando Regional Medical Centre. (AP)

ROCHESTER, Minnesota: Argentine First Lady Zulema Yoma De Menem says she hopes her family's next trip to the United States will be for something more enjoyable than surgery.

Carlos Menem the 20-year-old son of Argentine President Carlos Menem and his wife, underwent reconstructive knee surgery last week at the Mayo Clinic's St Marys Hospital following a July 16 motorcycle accident in Argentina. (AP)

NEW YORK: It won't be long until they start yelling "getcha Sostitski!" when Nathan's famous opens its first hotdog stand in Moscow's Red Square.

Nathan's, which has been peddling its famous red hot dogs since old man Nathan opened his stand in Coney Island in 1916, announced Tuesday it has signed a deal with Moscow officials to start serving the frankfurters.

But forget the sauerkraut and the onions. It will just be mustard and catsup at first. (UPI)

FORT WORTH, Texas: Fort Worth zoo officials still are not certain what sex their new baby rhino is, but they know its significance.

The 100-pound (45 kilogramme) black rhinoceros calf is the first born under a programme designed to save the species from extinction through captive breeding. Biologists hope it is the first of many born on US zoos and ranches. (AP)

NEW YORK: Diana Vreeland, a flamboyant arbiter of the fashion world who edited two leading women's magazines, has died of a heart attack, a hospital spokeswoman said.

But forget the sauerkraut and the onions. It will just be mustard and catsup at first. (UPI)

WASHINGTON: First Lady Barbara Bush was ordered onto new medication Tuesday after her doctors concluded there has been no improvement in a bothersome eye condition triggered by Graves disease, her spokeswoman said.

However, press secretary Anna Maria Perez said the specialists who examined Mrs Bush during a two-hour session at Walter Reed Army Hospital also agreed that the disease's "most serious threat — an attack upon her thyroid gland — has been controlled. (AP)



In business

Actor Robert De Niro, whose widely varied roles included an architect in the film 'Falling in Love,' is overseeing the conversion of an eight-story building in Manhattan to house his new production company.

"This is my first production company, and the first time I'm an executive," De Niro was quoted as saying in the September issue of Manhattan, Inc. "I don't know, maybe I'm creating some security for myself in my old age. Ten years ago I wouldn't have done this. Five years ago, I don't know."

"But I was thinking, if I'm ever going to do this, I'd better do it now."

The former factory, in an area where De Niro has lived for 10 years, will become a film production centre, complete with editing facilities and a screening room.

On the first floor will be the Tribeca Bar and Grill, backed by De Niro and some friends: celebrities Bill Murray, Sean Penn, Mikhail Baryshnikov, Christopher Walken, Peter Max and others.

"I thought, this would be like a community centre, a place that was responsible for making good movies. De Niro told the magazine. "But it'll take on its own life."

NEW YORK: Actor Rob Lowe says there is nothing wrong with his ethics, but he admits he made a mistake when he videotaped a sex encounter with two young women during last year's Democratic national convention in Atlanta.

"I could be the poster boy for bad judgment," the actor said in a television interview to be broadcast today.

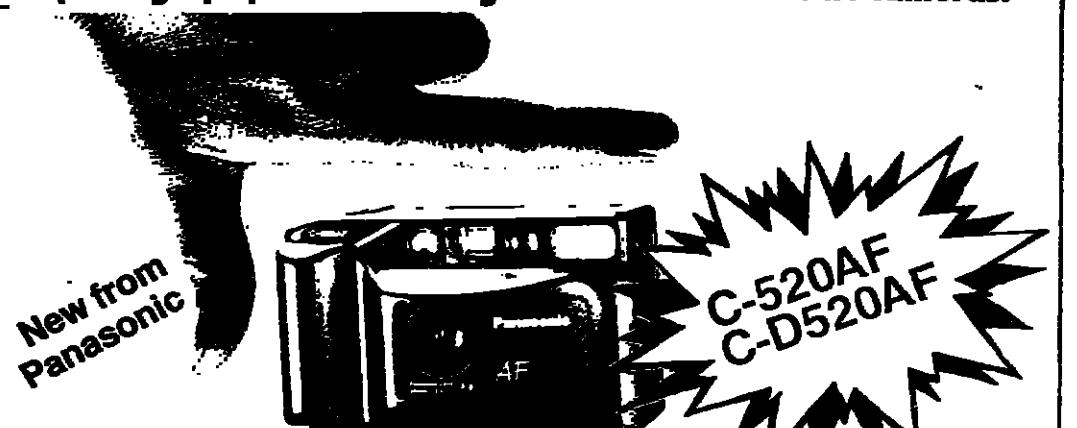
"I'm not making excuses for myself. I'm a man and I stand up to mistakes I've made," he said. "Thinking, I knew it immediately after making the mistake."

Lowe, interviewed on the Los Angeles set of his new movie, Bad Influence, said he knew the story would surface eventually. (AP)

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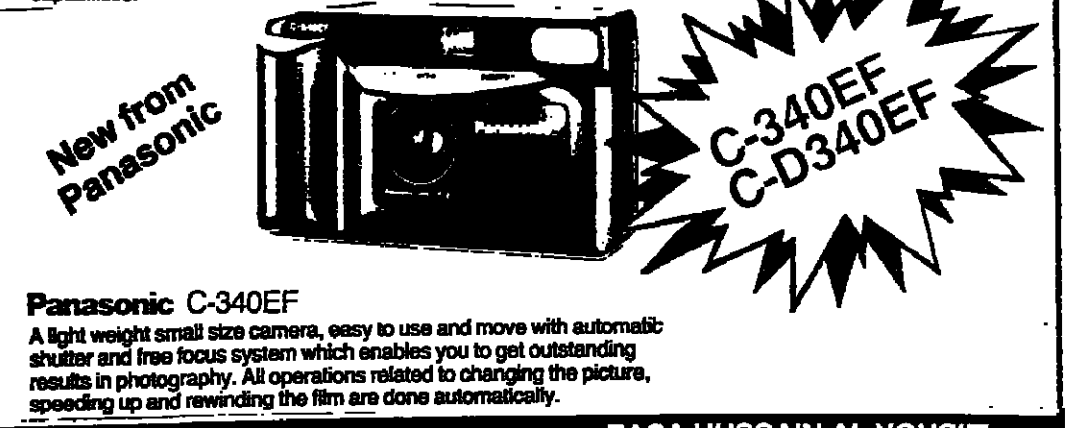
However, press secretary Anna Maria Perez said the specialists who examined Mrs Bush during a two-hour session at Walter Reed Army Hospital also agreed that the disease's "most serious threat — an attack upon her thyroid gland — has been controlled. (AP)

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Accused rapist convicted

Stadium hosts trial

MOSCOW, Aug 23, (Reuters) — Angry citizens in the Tatar city of Naberezhnie Chelny forced the local court to try an accused rapist and murderer in an outdoor stadium before 5,000 spectators, a Soviet newspaper said today.

The newspaper Moskovskaya Pravda said residents, frustrated with the city's growing crime rate, threatened to strike unless the normally closed trial was held in public.

It said the only space big enough to accommodate the crowds was the city's outdoor stadium, where some 5,000 people followed the trial of a man named Vasiliev, charged with raping and murdering an 18-year-old girl.

Vasiliev was convicted after a four-day trial and sentenced to death, the newspaper said.

The city of Naberezhnie Chelny, known briefly as Brezhnev before reverting to its old name, has seen a 60 per cent growth in crime in the last year, the newspaper said.

Iowa report cites probability not cause

WASHINGTON, Aug 23, (AP) — A US Navy report on the blast aboard the USS Iowa that claimed 47 lives will not pinpoint a specific reason for the explosion but will cite "a probability" about its cause, defence sources say.

One defence official said investigators have attempted to look at all the circumstances that may have led to the explosion, but that none appears to have been the overriding reason for the disaster.

The official said he was told the report will show a number of "lapses in procedures," but he declined to define them specifically.

Asked about reports that such problems as lapses in preventative maintenance of the gun turret had been

uncovered, or that some of the sailors had not been properly certified to operate the ship's complex firing mechanism, the official said:

"The investigation found various things wrong about procedures. But none of them has been found to be the cause."

"The report cites a probability," said the official, who spoke only on condition of anonymity.

The long-awaited report is under study by the staff of the chief of naval operations, Adm Carlisle A. H. Trost, at the Defence Department.

Trost is expected to brief Navy Secretary H. Lawrence Garrett and Defence Secretary Dick Cheney before he releases it to the public.

5 arrested in slaying of Colombian senator

Bush offers aid in war on drugs

BOGOTA, Aug. 23. (Agencies): Five men were in custody today as suspects in the assassination of popular presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan, whose slaying is blamed on powerful cocaine-trafficking cartels.

The five suspects, arrested yesterday in raids on a downtown apartment, create additional security for a state under virtual siege by drug traffickers.

Police also said yesterday that they had started proceedings to extradite the reputed finance chief of the Medellin drug cartel to the United States, where he faces conspiracy and drug trafficking charges.

Several men are believed to have participated in the killing of Galan at a campaign rally on Friday in the town of Soacha, outside Bogota.

Galan, a 46-year-old senator of the centre-left Liberal Party, was immensely popular and the generally acknowledged front-runner in the race for president in May 1990 elections. He reportedly called for stepping up the fight to eliminate the country's powerful cocaine cartels.

His death capped a 48-hour wave of assassinations that included the killings of a police colonel and a magistrate.

Crackdown

President Virgilio Barco responded by launching an emergency nation-wide crackdown and re-establishing extradition with the United States, where scores of Colombians are wanted on smuggling charges.

Empowered to seize traffickers' property, police and military forces have staged nearly 500 raids, seizing hundreds of cars, trucks, small planes and helicopters and entire estates allegedly owned by the drug lords.

The raids continued yesterday on ranches, farms and residences of suspected dealers, and more aircraft was reported impounded in Bogota and the trafficking centres of Medellin and Cali.

Nearly 11,000 criminal suspects have been rounded up since Barco launched the crackdown last Friday.

Financier

An alleged finance chief for the Medellin cartel, Eduardo Martinez Romero, was caught in the sweep. Police said yesterday they were starting the paperwork for his extradition to the United States, where he is accused in a billion-dollar money laundering scheme.

The US has sent the government of Colombia a list of the "dozen most wanted" drug kingpins wanted for trial. Attorney General Dick Thornburgh said.

But none of the 12 on the list—including the heads of the Medellin drug cartel—were believed to be in custody.

Thornburgh said today: "Facing trial in the United States is what these drug lords fear the most. This list of a dozen priority offenders is only the first phase of our extradition efforts."

According to the Justice Department, there are an estimated 80 Colombian traffickers who are currently under indictment in the US and would be eligible for extradition.

Thornburgh personally announced the US government's "most wanted list" during an informal news conference on a sidewalk outside the justice department.

A Colombian Defence Ministry source said a US Air Force C-100 aircraft had been parked at a military airport since Saturday, ready to transport key drug suspects to the US.

Officials who spoke on condition of anonymity said the United States is preparing to send a small team of police experts to Colombia to advise judges, magistrates and journalists on how to improve security.

The list released yesterday includes a dozen alleged top drug traffickers, including leaders of the two major Colombian cocaine cartels and a former Colombian police officer who officials say tried to kill two US agents.

"We don't know the whereabouts of any of these individuals," Attorney-General Dick Thornburgh said.

The Interpol network of world-wide law enforcement agencies was alerted "in recognition of the possibility that (the suspects) may have already fled Colombia" because of the recent crackdown on drug traffickers there, Thornburgh said.

Bush

The US government said yesterday it is ready to provide a wide array of assistance to help Colombia battle drug lords, but it reiterated that US troops are not an option.

President George Bush did not offer Barco military assistance in a telephone call Monday night, "nor did President Barco request it," said White House spokesman Alex Gien.

Meanwhile, a US television report said Ochoa Vasquez, an alleged drug trafficker learned of a US plan to kidnap him by tapping phones at the US embassy in Bogota.

The slaying suspects, all Colombians, were displayed to the local press and shown on television last night at national police headquarters, where they are under heavy guard.

A police communique said that they were captured at a downtown Bogota apartment earlier in the day and gave their names but no other information. They were not known members of the drug underworld, which authorities say routinely uses hired killers and even helps finance the training and equipping of shadowy death squads in association with right-wing extremists.



Newton was found dead Tuesday in Oakland, California. (Reuter wirephoto)

Newton, a rebel without a cause

OAKLAND, California, Aug. 23. (AP): Huey P. Newton, the charismatic co-founder of the Black Panther Party, was adrift without a battle to fight in the final days before his death, a close friend says.

Newton's bullet-riddled body was found before dawn yesterday in a neighbourhood known for drug violence. Police had no suspects and no motive for the slaying, said Lt. Mike Sims.

Newton, 47, was killed in the neighbourhood where he began organising blacks more than 20 years ago, several miles (kilometres) from his present home.

Fred Hiestand, a Sacramento lawyer who was Newton's attorney and close friend, said Newton was struggling to find a niche for himself after earning a doctorate, overcoming alcohol and drug abuse problems and facing life with no criminal charges for the first time in 15 years.

"He was just trying to figure out where he fit, what he was going to do... trying to shake some alcohol and chemical dependency that he acquired, but he was doing it all on his own, without anyone's help," said Hiestand.

Hiestand said he saw Newton on Friday and the former Panther leader "seemed to be OK."

"There was nothing bothering him that he talked about," he said. Hiestand said he believed Newton had been drug-free for at least six months.

Newton was arrested earlier this year for possession of drug paraphernalia, but police said they had no indication the slaying was drug-related.

"He didn't seem to be able to find a role for himself," said Hiestand. "I think he was like a lot of people who went through that period... He lived it intensely and it left its scars."

With Bobby Seale, Newton founded the Black Panther Party. Armed Panther members followed police cars to monitor their activities in the black community. Under the slogan "All Power to the People," the Panthers also operated a school, a health clinic and programmes for ghetto youngsters.

The party drifted into violence and gradually disintegrated, as members were killed and the FBI infiltrated and disrupted the organisation.

Yesterday's shooting occurred in a neighbourhood of run-down Victorian-style homes and abandoned buildings.

"To us, Huey Newton was a hero," said resident Fred Deplam. "The Black Panthers were a thing to identify with along with Malcolm X and Martin Luther King."

Malcolm X was another militant black leader from the 1960s and King led the civil rights movement in the United States in the 1950s and 1960s before he was assassinated.

Over the years, Newton was accused of two slayings and stood trial five times. His conviction in the 1967 killing of an Oakland police officer was overturned and two trials in the 1974 death of a young prostitute resulted in deadlocked juries.

Newton went into self-exile in Cuba shortly thereafter, returning to the United States in 1977.

This year he served a 90-day sentence in San Quentin Prison for a parole violation and a concurrent term for his plea of no contest to misappropriating \$15,000 in public money earmarked for a community school run by the Panthers.

Adamson murder inquiry

Suspect held

NAIROBI, Aug. 23. (Reuter): Kenyan police have detained a man for questioning in connection with the murder of British conservationist George Adamson, the deputy police commissioner said today.

Elijah Sumbaiyo said the man had been arrested during a police sweep of the remote area of eastern Kenya where Adamson and two of his employees were murdered by bandits on Sunday.

"He is helping the police with the inquiries, but there is no evidence to pin him down," Sumbaiyo said, adding that the police manhunt was continuing.

Adamson and his late wife Joy achieved international fame for their success in returning captured lions to the wild.

Joy Adamson chronicled their experiences with one lion Elsa, in her book "Born Free" which was later made into a film.

Adamson, 82, and his two employees were shot as they went to the aid of a vehicle that had been held up by bandits near his homestead in the Kora National Reserve, 250 km (150 miles) northeast of Nairobi.



Sisters reunited

Cuban exile Dales Figuero, (right), and her sister Carmen Figuero are overcome with emotion moments after being reunited through a private resettlement programme that makes sponsors, not the government, responsible for them. A total of 213 Cubans arrived from Central America, where they were stuck for up to eight years after leaving Cuba for the United States. (Reuter wirephoto)

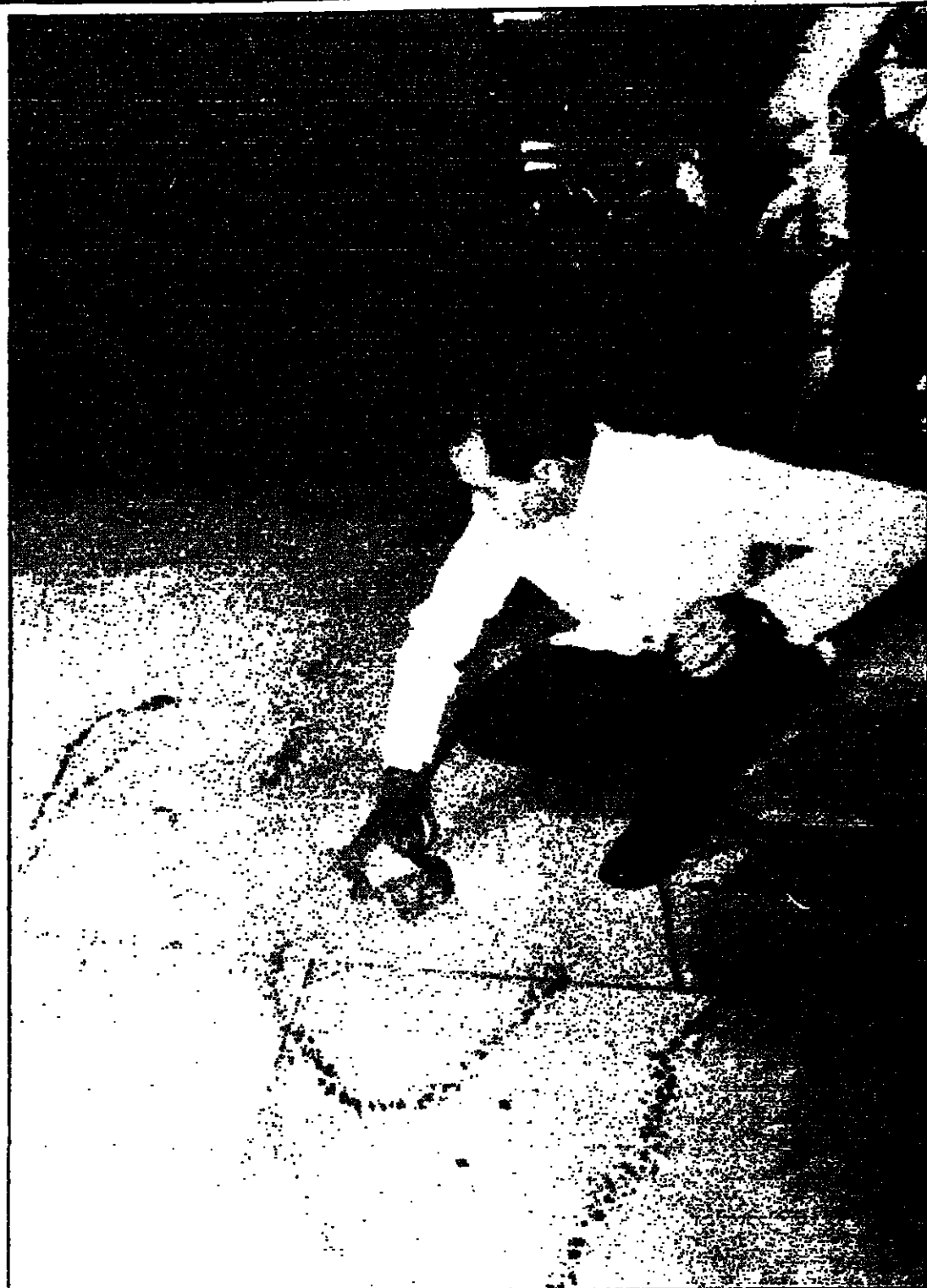
Dealer's information 'quite usable' but insufficient to indict Raul Castro

MIAMI, Fla., Aug. 23. (Agencies): A convicted drug smuggler has told US authorities that Cuban Defence Minister Raul Castro, the brother of Cuba's President, was on the scene when a cocaine-laden plane was unloaded at a Cuban Air Force base in 1987, prosecutors said yesterday.

Dexter Lehtinen, US attorney for the southern district of Florida, said yesterday that Ruiz account represents the best evidence yet linking Raul Castro to international drug smuggling.

"He personally saw Raul Castro," Lehtinen said. Lehtinen said the information is "quite usable," but insufficient to indict Raul Castro. But the prosecutor said he expects information provided by Ruiz to lead to the indictment of other individuals.

Asked if Ruiz could be believed, Lehtinen said: "You have to discount... somewhat (what) convicted drug dealers say, because they have a motive to say it." Ruiz told US investigators that he paid \$200,000 per



Trail of blood

A worker cleans what is apparently blood from the floor of Itamaraty Palace in Brasilia, Brazil, as President Jose Sarney and Argentine President Carlos Menem greeted guests for dinner Tuesday.

night. A man with journalist's credentials made his way to the front of the photographers' box and tried to throw the substance at the two presidents. (Reuter wirephoto)

Breeding in captivity

Endangered species protected

ROME, Aug. 23. (AP): From Tahitian tree snails to Arabian antelopes, international wildlife conservationists say they are succeeding in saving some of the world's endangered species.

About 200 specialists of the World Conservation Union's Species Survival Commission met in Rome this week to discuss ways of protecting animals threatened by poaching, destruction of habitats and encroachment by humanity.

The union, based in Gland, Switzerland, combines governments, government agencies and non-governmental organisations.

The three-day Rome meeting, which ended yesterday, examined the plight of the African elephant, whose numbers have dropped from 1.3 million to 700,000 in the past 10 years because of poaching.

However, the experts also discussed the prospects for saving lesser-known species such as the Mediterranean monk seal, Himalayan snow leopard, Florida panther, Javanese rhinoceros and Liberian mongoose.

In many cases, the answer is breeding animals in captivity and releasing them in the wild.

"It's only in the past few years that captive breeding has become an integral part of conservation," said Ulysses S. Seal, a professor at the University of Minnesota, chairman of the union's Captive Breeding Group.

"We project that 1,500 animals, birds and reptiles will need captive breeding in the next 50 years. Right now, we have more than 125 species on our plate," he said.

Those include the Arabian oryx, a large antelope that became extinct in the wild but was saved by breeding in zoos in London, Phoenix and elsewhere. Wild herds now roam Oman, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Microwave inquiry

An urgent inquiry into the performance of domestic microwave ovens in the UK has been ordered by the British government, it was reported today.

The move came after research showed there is a chance that food poisoning bugs and organisms like listeria can survive if food is not heated throughout to a minimum of 70° centigrade.

It showed that microwave ovens can vary in their ability to heat food evenly, and instructions on packets could not take account of this.

The British Consumers' Association advised people not to cook ready-made or cooked-chilled meals in a microwave. (KUNA)

Bomb defused: Army bomb experts have defused a World War Two bomb in a chalk quarry near Dartford, Kent, southern England, it was reported today.

A two-mile stretch of a main motorway was closed for several hours last night while the operation took place.

The bomb was dug up during construction work beside the southbound carriageway, which was reopened early this morning.

Two weeks ago the same stretch of the M25 motorway was closed after another wartime bomb was found there.

Police warned that more unexploded bombs may be in the area. (KUNA)

Soviets launch: An automatic freight spacecraft of a new, Progress-M, series was launched in the Soviet Union today, in accordance with a programme to ensure the functioning of the Mir orbital scientific-research complex.

Progress-M spacecraft, of an improved modification, are intended for transport operations to ensure more efficient exploitation of manned orbital stations, Soviet news agency, Tass, reported.

The programme of the Progress-M spacecraft's first flight envisages tests of on-board systems in different regimes and delivery of consumable materials to the Mir complex. (KUNA)

Plane crashes: A single-engine float plane apparently stalled while taking off and plunged into Great Slave Lake, killing six men who had been on a fishing trip to the Canadian north.

"From an eyewitness, the plane taxied, got off,

tried to bank and stalled in the air and went nose first into the water," said Corp. Dale Erickson of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The victims, five Canadians and a man from Finland, had been fishing at Utuq point on the eastern arm of Great Slave Lake, more than 600 miles (965 kilometres) north of Edmonton, Alberta. They had planned to catch a commercial flight at Yellowknife. (AP)

Bush popularity: President George Bush is more popular with Americans six months into his term than his predecessor Ronald Reagan was at the same point in his presidency, a poll released yesterday showed.

Seventy-three per cent of Americans approve of the way President Bush is handling his job six months after he took office, while only 21 per cent disapproved, according to the ABC News/Washington Post poll.

Public opinion-wise, Bush's rating puts him 11 points ahead of Reagan, whose performance was approved of by 62 per cent of a sampling about six months into his first term in 1981. (Reuter)

Parole denied: A board of examiners yesterday recommended that Anne Henderson-Pollard, the wife of convicted spy Jonathan Jay Pollard, be denied early parole, her lawyer said.

The panel heard her case at the federal penitentiary where she is serving a five-year sentence as an accessory after the fact in the case, said Hamilton P. Fox. The panel's recommendations will now pass to a regional commissioner for a ruling, he said. (AP)

Opposition to call: An opposition coalition is poised to call for the return of confiscated land and the dismantling of the leftist Sandinista People's Army as part of its political platform for next February's elections.

The proposals of UNO, as the 12-party coalition is known by its Spanish initials, also look at maintaining state control of foreign trade while freeing the domestic market.

Members of UNO, or National Opposition Union, yesterday continued debating the plan, and the final version was expected to be released later this week. The Associated Press obtained a copy of the draft. (AP)

OAS fails to remove Noriega

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23. (UPI): The Organisation of American States was ready to concede failure today in its three-month attempt to end Gen. Manuel Noriega's grip on power in Panama, officials said.

"I'm bitterly disappointed," Panamanian Ambassador Juan Sosa, an opponent of Noriega, told United Press International. "It was altogether a very weak effort by the OAS. The OAS had the opportunity to support the people of Panama but it did not have the will to act."

In light of the failure, the United States is weighing further unilateral actions against Noriega's military-led government, a senior US official said yesterday.

A special session of OAS foreign ministers was scheduled to meet today—the panel's third gathering since May—to hear the report of a commission of Panama led by Ecuadorian Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez and OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares. The foreign ministers were to meet earlier privately at the Colombian Embassy.

"From what he has heard so far, the mission got nowhere on Noriega stepping down," said a senior US official.

Noriega, as commander of the Panamanian Defence Force, is de facto absolute ruler of Panama. Two federal grand juries in Florida indicted Noriega last year on charges of drug trafficking.

"This will end it all," said the US official. "The OAS has had a run, and now we're going back to where we were in May."

The OAS took up the issue after Noriega and his followers tried to rig Panama's May 7 election results and, when that failed, attacked opposition candidates and stole ballot boxes. An election commission appointed by Noriega then annulled the election results when it appeared the opposition had won.

The United States reluctantly agreed to suspend its unilateral efforts to force Noriega out of office in favour of a hemispheric operation run by the OAS.

In other development, Noriega said yesterday Panama's opposition forces committed a "historic error" by rejecting the government's power-sharing proposal.

The Panamanian embassy in Washington, which has been under the control of anti-Noriega forces, will be closed next week until democracy is restored to Panama, it was announced yesterday.

Suit to block album

ATLANTA, Georgia, Aug. 23. (AP): Recording by Ringo Starr debuted in court yesterday as a judge weighed whether the song would be a \$3.5-million hit or is an alcohol-marred embarrassment, as the ex-Beatle claims.

Musical industry executives have said the record would be a "guaranteed No. 1 hit," an attorney for Memphis, Tennessee, producer Chips Moman said as he played the tape for Fulton County superior court judge Clarence Cooper.

The song, "I Can Help," is one of 14 Starr recorded with Moman in 1987. Moman wants to release an album to coincide with Starr's current smash US concert tour, but Starr says he is unhappy with his performance and the album would hurt his reputation.

Cooper did not rule immediately on whether to extend a 30-day order blocking the record's release. The restraining order expires tomorrow.

The judge, after telling attorney Thomas Washburn to "turn it down," listened patiently to Starr's upbeat rendition of Billy Swan's 1975 hit.

Starr, who recently completed a much-publicized treatment for alcoholism, also objects to "Whiskey and Soda," a part of the collection. His attorney, Robert O. Fleming Jr., said yesterday.

"That is not a song Mr. Starr is eager to have released" on an album with his name and his picture on the cover, Fleming said.

Tapes containing jokes and practice recordings by the Beatles fetched nearly \$12,000 pounds (\$19,000) at a London auction yesterday.

China to punish intellectuals

Party corruption blamed for turmoil



A policeman guards the main gate of the Beijing University. China has begun bombarding students with 'political thought education' and imposed other strict controls aimed at eradicating campus dissent. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kim denies links with Suh's trip

Prosecution claims it has evidence

SEOUL, Aug 23 (AP) Kim Dae-jung, leader of South Korea's largest opposition party, denied allegations that he was involved in a lawbreaker's secret trip to North Korea and said today he would fight "to the end" if indicted.

"I am innocent and I expect truth to be established," Kim, head of the Party for Peace and Democracy, told reporters.

Government prosecutors have not filed formal charges but said today they had enough evidence to indict the opposition leader. If charged and convicted, Kim, 64, could face up to seven years in prison.

If Kim is indicted, it would be the third time he has faced trial on charges of violating national security laws. The two-time opposition presidential candidate spent almost seven years in prison for a 1976 conviction on sedition charges and a 1980 conviction for anti-government activity.

Kim, 64, was released early today following a 15-hour interrogation by prosecutors, the second time in three weeks he has been questioned about an alleged trip to North Korea by National Assemblyman Suh Kyung-won.

He contends the government is harassing him and trying to embarrass and discredit the opposition.

Prosecutors say they suspect Kim received \$10,000 from Suh, who secretly visited Pyongyang last August. Suh had admitted receiving \$30,000 after meeting with North Korean leader Kim Il



Kim: Interrogation

Sung. Kim also was accused of knowing Suh took a trip to the North two months before the case was made public in June. Failure to report such a case to authorities is a crime under Korean law.

Kim asked the authorities for permission to confront Suh Kyung-won to demand an explanation for allegations that Suh told Kim about the secret trip before it was made public, news reports said. Kim also wants an explanation for the report that Suh said he gave Kim money he had received from North Korean agents, the

reports said. Yonhap, the South Korean news agency, quoted a prosecutor's spokesman as saying Kim's request for a meeting with Suh in the presence of investigators was turned down.

Yonhap said prosecutor showed Kim a bank receipt for the exchange of US dollars into Korea's won currency, claiming the money was part of what Suh received from North Korean agents.

Prosecutors also played tape recordings of Suh's testimony that purported to support the allegations, Yonhap said.

Local newspapers quoted unidentified prosecution officials as saying Kim would be indicted soon, along with two other lawmakers of his party, on charges of violating national security laws.

Kim and the two opposition lawmakers would not be detained, the newspapers quoted the officials as saying. Prosecutors reportedly indicated PPD floor leader Kim Won-ki and Rep Lee Chul-yong would be indicted for allegedly failing to report Suh's trip to authorities. The two PPD lawmakers denied the allegations.

Another PPD lawmaker, Cho Hong-kyu, also was subpoenaed today and questioned about whether he knew about Suh's trip before it was made public. Prosecutors gave no indication of whether they would indict him.

BEIJING, Aug 23 (Agencies): China plans to send thousands of politically suspect intellectuals to the countryside in a move foreign diplomats said was part of a campaign to crush the democracy movement.

The China Culture, an official publication said all university graduates since 1985 working in state departments under the Ministry of Culture would be sent to grass-roots organizations for one to two years. Grass roots usually means the countryside.

"Anyone who has not understood training at the grass-roots level will soon be sent to such work units," the twice-weekly newspaper said.

Chinese sources from a number of government departments said today the measure would be applied more broadly than the newspaper implied.

Western diplomats said communist leaders wanted to punish students and intellectuals for the leading role they took in a pro-democracy movement crushed by the Army in June.

They said the move appeared linked to a campaign to root out potential, exponents of democracy.

An employee of a trading agency, who graduated after 1985, said she had been told she would soon be sent to work outside Beijing though no details were given.

In the days of Chairman Mao Tseung, China employed some of its most brilliant intellects mucking out pig pens.

Now, undergraduates at Beijing's elite universities fear China's leaders may be about to squander another generation's brightest talents.

They said a series of draconian measures aimed at stifling student dissent are numbing their minds, downgrading scholarship and once again putting a premium on communist purity.

"The end result will be a big loss for China," said a student at Beijing University, core of student pro-democracy demonstrations crushed by the Army in June.

The demonstrations, ended when troops killed hundreds and perhaps thousands of people in Beijing on June 3 and 4, were the most serious challenge to 40 years of communist rule.

Undergraduates at some Beijing campuses have begun hours of political indoctrination classes. Some graduates have been banished to provincial towns and Beijing University says all of its first year students will be sent to military colleges.

"Above all I am a patriot and I want to work for China but that is impossible with a government like this," the Beijing University student said, unwilling to give his name because of fear.

He and students at Qinghua University and People's University said many more of their classmates than in previous years had applied to study English. Their aim is to leave the country.

Enervating "political thought education," five hours a day for one week initially and two hours a week afterwards, was degrading, said a student at the People's University.

Some teachers and students did not reappear for the start of the new academic year at Qinghua and People's. Students said they believed they had been either arrested, expelled from school or were afraid to return.

Police have arrested many intellectuals who took part in the demonstrations, charging them with counter-revolutionary crimes aimed at subverting socialism.

The new academic year is likely to begin on Oct 14 at Beijing University, delayed by six weeks as authorities concentrate on disciplining teachers, students said. China removed the popular president of Beijing University and replaced him with a Marxist economist.

University students angered by the bloody government crackdown on democracy activists in Beijing planned to dig up the graves of Deng Xiaoping's ancestors but were stopped before they reached the grave site, a newspaper report said today.

Japan's steelmakers have resumed their exports to China while bankers say they are ready to resume loans, industry sources say.

An adviser to US President George Bush met with Chinese Vice President Wang Zhen, an official report said, but did not say if she conveyed a message from the President.



Actor Haing Ngor (second left) pictured with unidentified friends in the Cambodian capital. (Reuters wirephoto)

Cambodia revisited

Repatriating Cambodians

PHNOM, PENH, Aug 23 (Reuters): A decade after they escaped from Cambodia as unknown, war-weary refugees, Dith Pran and Haing Ngor have returned home as international celebrities with television cameras recording their every step.

Dith Pran, the journalist whose story was dramatized in the 1984 film "The Killing Fields," and Haing Ngor, the actor who won an academy award for his portrayal of Dith Pran, are among Cambodia's most prominent survivors of the Khmer Rouge regime, which is blamed for the deaths of at least a million Cambodians during its 1975-79 rule.

Both returned last Thursday for a week's visit to highlight Cambodia's plight as the government negotiates in Paris with the Khmer Rouge and other opposition groups to end 20 years of bloodshed.

"I want to tell the world the Khmer Rouge should never return," said Dith Pran, who was once badly beaten by the Khmer Rouge for gathering extra rice to supplement his meagre rations.

As long as the Khmer Rouge exists in Cambodia we have no chance for peace," Haing Ngor told Reuters.

Western military analysts estimate that the Khmer Rouge has an army of 30,000 to 40,000 fighters trying to overthrow the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh government.

For both men their return is an emotional reunion with long-lost family and friends.

Haing Ngor was greeted at the airport by his brother he had not seen since 1975.

"When I was in the Soviet Union in 1987 I saw 'The Killing Fields,'" Haing Ngor's brother Chan Sarun said in a waiting

BANGKOK, Aug 31 (Agencies): Dith Pran, the Cambodian reporter whose story was told in the movie "The Killing Fields," and Haing Ngor, the Academy award-winning actor who portrayed him, discussed the return of Cambodian refugees with leaders of the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh, official radio said.

Phnom Penh Radio, in a broadcast monitored in Bangkok yesterday, said the two Cambodians who now live in the United States met Prime Minister Hun Sen while in Cambodia.

"Prime Minister Hun Sen said the government of the state of Cambodia is considering the problem of repatriation of Cambodian refugees from Thailand," the radio said.

It said Hun Sen assured Dith Pran and Haing Ngor the return of the more than 300,000 refugees in Thailand would be carried out according to "principles of humanity and voluntary return."

The official news agency quoted Hun Sen as describing "The Killing Fields" as "one of the most important events which deals with the suffering of the Cambodian people in the genocidal Pol Pot regime."

Yesterday's report was monitored in Bangkok today. Dith Pran and Haing Ngor, who won an Oscar for his role, traveled to Phnom Penh at the invitation of Hun Sen last Thursday.

Dith Pran escaped the Khmer Rouge massacres after a hazardous trek to Thailand through fields littered with the bones of the Khmer Rouge's victims.

room at Phnom Penh's airport. "Only then did I know my brother was alive."

While strolling along a bustling street in the capital for the first time since the Khmer Rouge evacuated the entire city in 1975, Haing Ngor met a friend who had endured a Khmer Rouge prison with him. Together they discussed how lucky they were to have survived.

"Someone up there must be watching over me," Haing Ngor said.

Many friends and family members of the two visitors did not survive the murderous Khmer Rouge years. Haing Ngor's wife was among the victims and he hoped to pay homage at her grave.

During their stay, Dith Pran and Haing Ngor will visit several public memorials to the victims of the Khmer Rouge and meet prominent politicians.

Haing Ngor, a doctor by train-

No role for Khmer Rouge: Hun Sen

BANGKOK, Aug 23 (Agencies): Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnamese-backed Cambodian government left for Paris peace talks today declaring he would never agree to any political role for the Khmer Rouge resistance group, the government news agency said.

In Bangkok Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila said he feared that the talks, due to resume in Paris next week, were unlikely to bring a comprehensive settlement to the decade-long Cambodian conflict.

The SPK news agency quoted Hun Sen as saying his government "cannot accept any role" for the Khmer Rouge in a political settlement.

He said a political role for the Khmer Rouge could lead to their return to full power.

"We cannot reach any agreement if we fail to work out measures to prevent the resurgence of the genocidal (Khmer Rouge) regime and the outbreak of a civil war in Cambodia," the agency quoted him as saying before he left for Paris.

Stance

The report reaffirmed earlier statements by Hun Sen that he markedly toughened his negotiating stance. For several years Hun Sen, himself a former Khmer Rouge military commander, has said the Khmer Rouge would be allowed to have a political role as long as their top leaders were banned.

The Khmer Rouge are blamed for the deaths of more than one million people during their time in power in 1975 until their ouster by a Vietnamese invasion in 1979.

Hun Sen said his main differences with non-communist resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk were over the Khmer Rouge.

Sihanouk has insisted that the Khmer Rouge be given a part in the government to prevent them and their estimated 30,000 troops from continuing the guerrilla war.

Hun Sen said Sihanouk would be allowed to have a leading role in post-settlement Cambodia "if he joins the Cambodian people to oppose the universally condemned (former Khmer Rouge leader) Pol Pot junta."

"To this end he should dissociate himself from the alliance with the Pol Potist criminals," he said.

After rejecting a Franco-Indonesian peace plan for Cambodia, the Phnom Penh government has made a significant concession to resistance demands with its own counter-proposals.

Proposals

At an international conference in Paris last night, the Phnom Penh delegation proposed that free elections be held in Cambodia six months after the signing of ceasefire accord, doubling the time it was prepared to wait before a vote.

Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An said after presenting the proposals to the conference it was the first time the Cambodian government had agreed to wait six months before holding polls.

Prime Minister Hun Sen has previously insisted polls be held three months after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops at the end of the September, the date Phnom Penh has set for a ceasefire after 10 years of guerrilla war.

The three resistance factions led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk say three months would not be enough to organize free elections.

Sok An said the concession was a significant one on the part of his government, which reckons it would win 80 per cent of the vote in a free election.

Sok An presented the plan at a meeting of the so-called "ad hoc" committee, made up of the Cambodian factions and the conference's co-presidents, France and Indonesia.

The committee met to discuss an earlier Franco-Indonesian plan for a three-tiered interim administration. Under the plan resistance leader Sihanouk would become head of state with full powers over foreign policy and defence.

He would also preside over a "council of state" made up of representatives of the four factions, which would organize free elections within a year of a ceasefire.

Power

Hun Sen would remain as prime minister, but would have to give some ministerial responsibility to the other factions.

The resistance factions declined comment on the Franco-Indonesian plan, but Sok An said Phnom Penh had rejected it because it gave too much power to the resistance.

Foreign Minister Siddhi told reporters Thailand would continue to push for the inclusion of the Khmer Rouge to prevent more fighting.

Rebel attack kills 3, frees 8

Filipino prison bus fired at

OZAMIS, Philippines, Aug 23 (Agencies): Communist rebels freed three comrades and eight other prisoners by wounding a prison bus with the help of a woman who faked extreme pain to stop the vehicle on an isolated highway, police said today.

Three prison guards were killed in the attack, police said. Three of the eight non-communist prisoners surrendered to authorities a few hours later.

The incident occurred yesterday on the outskirts of Sinacaban town, 15 miles (25 kilometres) north of Ozamis seaport on Mindanao island and 480 miles (768 kilometres) south-east of Manila.

The bus was taking the prisoners, all convicted or murder, to Ozamis to board a ship for Manila and a transfer to the national prison there. Also aboard the bus were six guards and two women ostensibly seeing their husbands off.

On a secluded portion of the highway, one of the women doubled up and asked that the bus stop because she was in pain, said Guillermo Tan, the prison guard supervisor aboard the bus.

Tan said he believed the woman and ordered the driver to stop. When he did, an undetermined number of gunmen opened fire and then swarmed around the bus.

Members of a religious cult out to avenge the massacre of 37 followers today clashed with communist guerrillas in the southern Philippines, leaving 11 people dead, the military reported.

A military report said the dead in the clash outside the port city of Davao, 600 miles (800 km) south of Manila, included eight rebels and three members of the human religious group.

The report said 60 cultists backed by soldiers were on patrol in the village of Baracatan when they encountered some 200 rebels of the communist New People's Army (NPA). Eight rebels and three cultists were killed in the firefight.

Members of the religious group had been armed by the military after rebels barged into a chapel in nearby Digos town last June 25 and massacred 37 cult members during a church service. The cultists had vowed to exact revenge on the rebels.

The rebel leadership has said an investigation was being conducted on the massacre of the civilians.

The NPA is the 23,000-strong armed wing of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines which has been battling the central government in Manila for the past 20 years.

At least 11 soldiers and eight communist rebels were killed in a fierce two-hour battle that began with troops chasing a lone guerrilla through rice fields in a remote southern Philippine village, military officials said today.

Col. Ben Enrile, a Philippine army spokesman, said at least 12 other soldiers were wounded in the fighting, which occurred on Sunday in Adlay, an impoverished, rebel-infested village in Surigao del Sur province.

Burmese dissident stopped in Thailand

BANGKOK, Aug 23 (UPI): A Burmese dissident leader who headed for the United States under a special visa to speak about the suppression of democracy in Burma was prevented from leaving Thailand today by immigration officials, dissident sources said.

"There was a minor procedural problem, but we have been in communication with the appropriate authorities and we expect the problem to be cleared up shortly," said a US embassy official who asked not to be further identified.

The official did not know when the dissident would be allowed to leave Thailand.

The Burmese dissident, who is travelling under the pseudonym Min San Min to protect relatives remaining behind in Burma, was stopped by a Thai immigration official from boarding his flight to the United States this morning, a dissident source said.

Earlier Min San Min told United Press International he had been given a "humanitarian role" to visit the United States after receiving support from three US Congressmen.

"I want to tell the American people and the American Congress how the military is suppressing the people of Burma," said the dissident leader.

The 33-year-old activist said he played a leading role in the massive pro-democracy demonstrations that rocked the one-party government last year. The Burmese military then seized direct power on Sept 18 to crush the demonstrations with the loss of an estimated 1,000 lives.

Hong Kong decides to abolish flogging

HONG KONG, Aug 23 (AP): The government announced today it will abolish flogging, a criminal punishment once widely used in Hong Kong during the heyday of the British empire.

The use of the cane already has declined markedly. Hong Kong courts ordered only two floggings this year compared with 476 in 1952.

"The decline in the use of corporal punishment as a sentencing option to the point where it is now rarely used indicates clearly that it cannot be regarded as an effective deterrent, and is clearly not seen as such by the courts."

Under local statutes, only men can be flogged and "the instrument used shall be a light

cane or rattan of a type approved by the governor." The maximum number of strokes that can be applied ranges from 18 for offenders aged 17 or older to six for offenders under 14 years.

The sentence is carried out by a correctional services department staff member in the presence of a doctor.

Police tear-gas Tutu and children

CAPE TOWN, Aug 23. (AP): Police fired tear gas today at thousands of anti-apartheid activists including hundreds of children and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, as political unrest worsened in black and mixed-race townships outside Cape Town.

Several columns of black smoke from burning street barricades could be seen across the densely populated Cape flats, northeast of the city centre. Police headquarters reported clashes between officers and stone-throwing crowds in at least seven communities.

The unrest has continued almost unabated for more than three weeks, coinciding with the launch of a nation-wide defiance campaign organised by major anti-apartheid groups. The Cape Town area has been by far the most troubled area in the country, experiencing the most sustained series of confrontations in two years.

Tutu, leader of the Anglican church in southern Africa, tried to mediate between police officials and protesting youths in the black township of Guguletu.

The archbishop had persuaded the youths to call off a planned march from a high school to a police station, and instead arranged for a small delegation to go to the station to present various grievances.

But police fired tear gas at Tutu and about 1,000 other people as they emerged from a church where the archbishop had been reporting on the latest developments.

Police also used tear-gas on several thousand marchers at the University of the Western Cape, a militantly anti-government school where most students are mixed-race.

Tear-gas was fired at the marchers, who included teachers, students and workers, as they reached the main gate of the campus, leading out to a highway. The marchers carried placards supporting the defiance campaign and criticizing police action against activists.

Organisers said further protests were planned to oppose the visit to South Africa by an international rugby team, which activists say is undermining the sports boycott imposed to protest apartheid. The visiting team is scheduled to play South Africa's national team in Cape Town on Saturday.

An extreme right-wing member of parliament who tried to evict a Taiwanese family from a whites-only area has apologised to Taiwan's envoy in Pretoria, according to a letter published today.

Frank Le Roux, whose Conservative Party (CP) advocates hardline race segregation, enraged South Africa's Chinese community and sparked a political row this week by telling state agents to evict "Mou-tain" Lee, his wife and two children from his luxury house in a Pretoria suburb.

The government, anxious to maintain a reformist image abroad in the run-up to next month's general election, swiftly condemned the move and apologised to the Taiwanese embassy.

Seven African leaders yesterday handed President Mobutu Sese-Seko of Zaire the task of revitalising peace effort between Angola's Marxist government and Western-backed rebels.

The eight-nation Special Peace Committee on Angola also charged Mobutu with mediating an end to military actions by Jonas Savimbi's Union of the Total Independence of Angola, or UNITA, in violation of June 24 ceasefire.

At the end of five hours of talks in Harare, the committee said in a communique it reaffirmed Mobutu's role as the main mediator between the two sides in Angola's 14-year civil war.

The communique said the African leaders in Harare reiterated their support for a six-point agreement between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Savimbi at a June 22 summit of 18 African leaders at Mobutu's palace at Gbadolite, Zaire.

Mozambique: Right-wing Renamo guerrillas attacked a village in the Boane district near Maputo, killing at least 11 people and abducting an unknown number, the Noticias newspaper reported today.

The attack Monday on a group of peasant women on their way to the fields occurred just outside the village of Massaca-1 in the district of Boane, 19 miles (30 km) west of Maputo, at around 7:30 am.

The guerrillas wounded and abducted an unknown number of people, mainly women and children, the newspaper reported.



An unidentified man prays on the shore of the Thames near the site where the Marchioness sank. (Reuters wirephoto)

Reds to get more posts

Gorbachev advises Poles

WARSAW, Aug 23. (Agencies): Prime Minister-designate Tadeusz Mazowiecki committed himself today to giving the Communist Party more than two ministries in his Solidarity-led government, saying anything less could cause serious tensions.

The Parliament, where Solidarity delegates have combined with two minor parties long allied with the communists to form a new coalition, was scheduled to meet today and vote tomorrow on the prime minister's nomination.

The communists, who already had been promised control of the army and police with the key ministries of defence and interior, had threatened in a central committee statement Sunday to withhold support for Mazowiecki unless it was given a number of government posts that "correspond to its state and political potential."

"The Communist Party in total negotiation would be a trap for the country," Mazowiecki said today. "There is no opposition in the world which at the same time has the army and security services and remains the opposition."

"Our new partners must not feel like secondary partners," Mazowiecki said during his first meeting with the Solidarity Parliament caucus since being nominated prime minister Saturday by communist President Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Mazowiecki did not say how many government ministries would be offered to the Communists, or to Solidarity and the two minor parties. He said he plans to present a government within a week.

Mazowiecki told the Solidarity lawmakers that he had Jaruzelski's assurance the army and security forces would cooperate with a government led by Solidarity, which the government had long sought to reform.

Mazowiecki said he would meet tonight with the Democrats and Peasants, the two minor parties that joined Solidarity in a parliamentary majority and pushed Jaruzelski to nominate Mazowiecki.

Mazowiecki said today the



Mazowiecki with Solidarity advisor Jacek Kuron. (Reuters wirephoto)

Army and police have reservations about forming a non-communist government, but President Jaruzelski promised to try to gain their support.

The communist politburo met yesterday to fashion its position. It has not said exactly how many ministries it wants, but it wants to be treated as a full governing partner.

Afterward, party spokesman Jan Bysztyga reported that party first secretary Mieczyslaw Rakowski and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev had agreed in a 40-minute telephone conversation that solving Poland's problems "is impossible" without the communist Polish United Workers Party.

Gorbachev advised the defeated Polish Communist Party to play an active role as a minority member in a Solidarity-led coalition saying the country's problems cannot be resolved without help from the communists.

Gorbachev's remarks, yesterday were interpreted as Kremlin support for democratic reforms in Poland and a warning to Polish communists to play a positive rather than a destructive role in a Solidarity-led government.

US President George Bush said today that Gorbachev's reported counsel to Poland's communists to take part in the new government there was "very positive."

Greek bid to end symbol of animosity

Files to be burned

ATHENS, Aug 23. (AP): Security files on Greeks involved in the communist uprising 40 years ago, will be burned to end a lingering symbol of animosity between rightists and leftists, the government announced today.

The files were compiled on persons considered a threat to public security since the early 1940s and stored in the dusty, dank basement of Athens' security police headquarters.

They will be burned Aug 29 in the furnaces of a steel plant outside the capital, said government spokesman Athanasios Kanellopoulos.

He said a ceremonial parliamentary session marking the 40th anniversary of the end of the Greek civil war will be held the same day prior to the public burning of the files.

The civil war between 1946 and 1949, pitted families against each other over political ideology. Tens of thousands of persons were killed and wounded while thousands of others fleeing reprisals fled the country as government forces backed by Britain and the United States forced the communists to capitulate.

Personalities included among the security files are communist members of parliament and internationally acclaimed composer Mikis Theodorakis, who spent years in prison and exile on barren Greek islands for his leftist beliefs.

Turkey to close rail link to Europe

ANKARA, Aug 23. (Agencies): Turkey, which this week began requiring visas for Bulgarian Turks, will close its rail link to Europe to prevent entry by ethnic Turks travelling without visas, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Turkey decided on Monday to require visas from ethnic Turks seeking to emigrate from Bulgaria. It said the regulation, which took effect yesterday, would be in force until a comprehensive immigration agreement was negotiated with Bulgaria. About 310,000 ethnic Turks from Bulgaria have flooded into Turkey in the past three months.

Spokesman Murat Sungur told reporters that the train service would stop on Friday and that all affected countries had already been informed.

The single European train which travels daily between Munich and Istanbul goes through Austria, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. It is Turkey's only rail outlet to those countries.

Sungur said Turkey could review its decision if the Bulgarian government guaranteed that it would not send immigrants without visas on the train.

Last week, Turkey barred indefinitely the entry of a Bulgarian train that carried an average of 600 ethnic Turks daily to Turkey.

A group of 522 ethnic Turks without visas were aboard the European train yesterday. Turkish officials tried to turn them back, but later admitted them when they refused to go back and some tried to jump from the windows of the train.

The immigrants say they are fleeing Bulgaria's harsh assimilation campaign, which has included, among other things, forced change of their Muslim names to Slavic ones. They say they have been fined and beaten for speaking Turkish in public and for practicing Islamic rites.

A Turkish Foreign Ministry statement said on Monday the visa requirement was prompted by Bulgaria's refusal to start talks on an immigration agreement that would protect the rights of ethnic Turks coming to Turkey.

The visa requirement will allow Turkey to control the peace of the influx, work toward reunification of divided families and reject would-be immigrants deemed undesirable, Foreign Ministry officials said.

The first immigrant from Bulgaria who crossed the border with a valid visa said thousands of ethnic Turks were kept waiting on the Bulgarian side of the frontier, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported today.

Anatolia quoted Ahmet Durmushev as saying that the would-be-immigrants were waiting "in miserable conditions, with little water or food."

"They cannot go back, they cannot go forward. Some of them have sold their houses," Durmushev told Anatolia. The dispatch said Durmushev had a 15-day visa but did not intend to go back.

Members of a US congressional delegation condemned Bulgaria yesterday for forcing its ethnic Turkish minority to move to Turkey.

Inquests open into Thames deaths

More bodies found

LONDON, Aug 23. (Agencies): Thirteen more bodies have been recovered from the river Thames, bringing to 44 the number of people known to have died when a pleasure boat sank after being rammed by a dredger, police said today.

Police believe the death toll from Sunday's collision could be as high as 57, meaning 13 people are still unaccounted for. Seventy-nine people on board the Marchioness survived.

A spokesman for Scotland Yard said the latest bodies were recovered from the river last night and early today in several spots, some carried miles (kilometres) from the accident scene by strong tides.

Inquests into eight of the deaths opened at a London coroner's court today, and were adjourned until Sept 20 when other inquiries are expected to be completed. Sixteen inquests opened yesterday were adjourned to the same date.

Dr William Dolman, an assistant deputy coroner, offered his sympathy to the bereaved relatives and friends.

"As the days pass the River Thames yields up the victims and the true magnitude of the tragedy has become apparent," he said.

The 90-ton Marchioness, carrying revellers on a late-night party cruise, capsized immediately after being hit by the 1,475-ton dredger Bowbelle near Southwark bridge in central London.

The Marchioness, which had been hired for the 26th birthday party of a London financier, was licensed to carry 149 passengers and two crew members.

Meanwhile, safety regulations announced in the wake of Sunday's sinking took effect, and some tour boats refrained from motoring past the salvaged pleasure boat, lying on a riverbank.

Police detective chief superintendent Michael Purchase, who testified at the opening of an inquest, said blood alcohol tests on the Bowbelle's seven crew members and the Marchioness' surviving crew member proved negative.

New regulations for charter vessels on the Thames took effect yesterday.

Transport Secretary Cecil Parkinson decreed on Monday that captains must leave ashore a record of passenger totals before setting sail and must give airline-style safety instructions to passengers.

On the Thames, crewmen based at Westminster pier, near the houses of Parliament, decided yesterday to cancel pleasure boat sailings until the wreckage of the Marchioness is removed, said the Transport and General Workers Union.

"The men feel very sad about what has happened and they feel they just can't operate while the Marchioness wreck is still lying there," said union spokesman Michael Cashman.

Refugee wave to West swells

Bonn closes Prague embassy

BONN, Aug 23. (AP): More than 2,000 East Germans have fled to the West in the past four days, swelling a wave of refugees that has strained relations with East Berlin.

A Foreign Ministry said today that 2,000 people who crossed the Hungarian border into Austria had applied to the West German embassy in Vienna for travel documents between Saturday and early Tuesday.

That brings the number of illegal escapes to about 3,300 so far this month, the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

West Germany expects more than 100,000 East German refugees by the end of the year.

The source also said there were nearly 140 East Germans sheltered at Bonn's embassy in Prague, Czechoslovakia. That mission was closed this morning because diplomats' ability to house or help the refugees was "totally exhausted," the Foreign Ministry said.

Bonn also has temporarily shut down its representations in East Berlin, where 116 East Germans are holed up, and in Budapest, where 171 are taking refuge. There is also one East German at the West German embassy in Warsaw.

Although the Budapest embassy gates have locked out hundreds of new East German arrivals over the past week, West German envoys have been quietly issuing passports to the would-be emigrants outside the mission grounds.

That has allowed those East Germans willing to sneak across the Hungarian border at night to go directly to West Germany, instead of having to seek travel documents from Bonn's embassy in Vienna.

Foreign Ministry officials said last week that more than 1,000 passports had been given to East Germans in Budapest after the embassy closed. Spokesman Peter Rothen said today that the ministry would not disclose the more recent total because of the sensitivity surrounding the refugee issue.

The East German government of Erich Honecker has accused West Germany of instigating the escapes and warned that relations will suffer if Bonn continues to harbour the refugees.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl said yesterday that he is willing to meet with Honecker personally to try to resolve the problem, but continued the flood can be checked only when East Berlin gives in to the demands of the East German public for social change.

While the communist parties in Poland and Hungary have loosened their grip on power, Honecker has held fast to hard-line policies on travel and free expression.

Those fleeing across neighbouring Hungary's porous border with Austria have said they abandoned East Germany with a sense of hopelessness that the system would ever change.

The East-West German crisis was exacerbated by the shooting death last Monday of an East German trying to flee across the Hungary-Austria border with his wife and child.

Hungary's MTI news agency said the man, Kurt-Werner Schulz, struggled with a Hungarian border guard who tried to intercept his flight, and that an accidental firing from the guard's handgun fatally wounded Schulz.

The West German Foreign Ministry has demanded an explanation and assurances from Budapest that armed force will not be used against East German refugees.



A Hungarian border guard offers a drink to a distraught East German trying to cross into Austria after he was informed that he must go back. (Reuters wirephoto)



An East German refugee who swam into Austria across the Neusiedl lake on the border with Hungary tries out a pair of shoes donated by Austrians. (Reuters wirephoto)

Human chain to unchain Baltic

RIGA, Soviet Union, Aug 23. (Agencies): Lithuanians, Latvians and Estonians demanding more autonomy from Moscow demonstrated today to mark the 50th anniversary of a Nazi-Soviet pact that wiped their homelands off the map as independent states.

From the Gulf of Finland in the north to Vilnius near the Polish border in the south, men, women and children, carrying the flags of their once-independent republics, turned out to condemn the 1939 Molotov-Ribbentrop pact.

The highlight of the day was when an estimated half a million people formed a human chain across the Latvian capital, Riga, running 600 km (375 miles) along the length of all three republics.

Demonstrations were also scheduled for the southwestern republic of Moldavia, which was also seized by the Soviet Union from Romania under the pact, local activists said.

"Soviet policy here is simply that of a colonial power," said Janis Jurkens, a spokesman for the Latvian Popular Front, a radical mass movement which organised the chain together with the Estonian Popular Front and Lithuania's Sajudis organisation.

"We have the taste of freedom and you cannot wash that away with laws and decrees."

Central Soviet newspapers, meanwhile, stepped up a propaganda campaign against "nationalist extremists" in the three republics, with the Communist Party daily Pravda accusing leaders of Sajudis of hypocrisy.

Hundreds of people gathered in the centre of the Latvian capital at Riga's Freedom Monument, which was strewn with multi-coloured wreaths.

Among the garlands was a bunch of red and white carnations from Poland's Solidarity movement, while other flowers had been arranged to depict flags dating from the three republics' two decades of independence which ended in 1940.

Local authorities in the city hastily blotted out a spray-painted slogan in Latvian on a nearby wall, referring to the "genocide of the Latvians" under Soviet dictator Josef Stalin.

But they could not prevent a brisk trade in posters with similar slogans at nearby shops. These also sold Latvian flags and calendars depicting Hitler and Stalin grasping the Baltic republics and Poland with bloody hands.

In the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius, several thousand people gathered for an afternoon rally organised by the Independence Union, an umbrella organisation for radical groups pressing for immediate independence from Moscow.

Sajudis told Reuters others were in the city's cathedral square, where some 240 people were staging a one-day hunger strike to protest against the secret protocols to the Nazi-Soviet agreement. Lithuanian flags were draped in black as a sign of mourning.

The human chain climaxed a series of protests marking the anniversary of the treaty.

In Tallinn, the state-run radio told participants how to get to their spots on the chain and organisers arranged news conferences, meetings and concerts.

"The Estonian people are very united and the mood is very good," said Ulo Kasevits, a member of the Estonian People's Front, one of the grassroots groups that organised the chain. The protests "are dedicated to victory over the evil that the pact and the Soviet occupation begot," he said.

In Vilnius, Sajudis leaders approved their most explicit and radical demand so far for independence from the Soviet Union.

Some 170 leaders of the group voted to call for "the creation of an independent democratic Lithuanian republic not under the power of the Soviet Union." They also branded the 1940 Soviet annexation of the republic "an occupation."

The vote followed criticism in the daily Pravda, which described "Sajudis leaders" as increasingly "intentional" and accused them of distorting history and seeking full secession from the Soviet Union.

On the eve of the 50th anniversary of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact, the Polish Communist Party yesterday condemned the Soviet-Estonian treaty's secret protocol that resulted in partition of Poland at the start of World War II.

West Germany observed the anniversary today with a stream of useful commentaries and sombre documentaries showing Hitler plotting World War II.

Party manager dropped as Kohl launches 1990 election campaign

BONN, Aug 23. (Reuters): Facing foes on both left and right in West Germany's general elections next year, Chancellor Helmut Kohl has launched his campaign by picking a fight within his own party.

Kohl stunned his Christian Democratic Party (CDU) on Monday by dumping party manager Heiner Geissler, a prominent liberal with wide support, after 12 years in his job.

After other CDU leaders and leading newspapers warned that Kohl was shifting the party to the right, the chancellor pulled another surprise yesterday by

naming foreign policy expert Volker Ruebe as the party's next general secretary.

Kohl, whose choice will have to be approved by the party's annual convention in Bremen in September, admitted at a press conference that he expected internal criticism triggered by Geissler's sacking to continue.

"We will have a lively discussion on Monday," he said, referring to the next meeting of the CDU's party presidium, which he did not inform of his decision in advance. But he said he expected the

convention to approve Ruebe.

Initial reactions pointed to more than just one lively meeting.

West German television said about 500 CDU members had called the party headquarters after Geissler's firing, almost all to complain against it.

The CDU, senior partner in Kohl's seven-year coalition with the small Free Democratic Party (FDP), has lost votes to the radical-right Republicans in three elections this year.

Kohl noted the party faced a further eight polls

next year, including the general elections in December, and said he wanted to bring in a younger man to run the campaign.

Without going into details, Kohl made it clear he felt Geissler, who enjoyed wide respect within the party, had become too independent and powerful for him.

A US military plane carrying West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl aborted its takeoff from West Berlin yesterday after a bird flew into an engine, a source close to Kohl said. No one was hurt.

Stop expulsions, asks Senegal

Mubarak to mediate in territorial dispute with Mauritania

DAKAR, Aug. 23, (UPI). Senegal said yesterday Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has agreed to try and mediate in an ethnic and territorial dispute with Mauritania that led the two countries to sever diplomatic relations and renewed fears of war between the African neighbors.

But the government of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf said it would use "all means necessary" to defend its territory and urged Mauritania to stop forcibly deporting thousands of black Mauritians to Senegal.

Mubarak will visit both Senegal and Mauritania over the first 10 days of September in his capacity as the current head of the Organisation of African Unity to try and resolve the bitter five-month-old dispute, Foreign Minister Ibrahim Fall told a news conference.

"It is clear that Senegal remains attached to resolving the conflict by peaceful means, that this is its preferred way and that Senegal will continue to work for a global and peaceful solution," said the foreign minister.

"But let there be no mistake about the

determination of Senegal to defend its territorial integrity, its sovereignty and its independence by all the necessary means," the foreign minister said.

Fall called on Mauritania to halt its policy of forcibly deporting black Mauritians to the River Senegal that runs along the frontier with Senegal. He said 40,000 Mauritians had been pushed over the border in this way so far, many of them camping on the Senegalese side of the frontier. Nouakchott must stop the ethnic expulsions "if not that is going to trouble peace in the region," he said.

Senegal formally broke off diplomatic relations Monday with Mauritania and ordered the last two Mauritanian diplomats out of Dakar in retaliation for the expulsion of the Senegalese ambassador Ousmane Camara for "activities incompatible with his status." Camara was to return to Dakar yesterday with his staff and the embassy was to be closed.

Troops have been massed on both sides of the Senegalese-Mauritanian border since hundreds of people were killed in ethnic and nationalistic rioting swept through the two capitals in April.

Back new cabinet, appeals Khamenei

No deviation from Khomeini's strategy: Rafsanjani

NICOSIA, Aug. 23, (AP). Iran's spiritual leader called on Parliament today to support President Hashemi Rafsanjani and set aside political differences by approving his proposed cabinet as soon as possible.

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, in a speech broadcast by Tehran Radio, told parliamentarian deputies that they should "vote on competence" rather than "differences of taste, or God forbid, personal matters."

Khamenei's appeal for a speedy vote of confidence in Rafsanjani's

Deputies "can investigate and vote freely for the cabinet ministers," Khamenei said. "But I would like to say that today it is not expedient to leave a ministry without a minister ... in these sensitive circumstances."

He noted: "Frankly, in these times, every single day is crucial. If one of these ministries is left without someone in charge, even for a day or a week, a big part of the people's affairs will be left undone. This is not fair."

Rafsanjani dumped hardline interior minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Intelligence Minister Mohammad Reza Shariati and other radicals in his proposed cabinet. Musavi's post was scrapped in the constitutional changes, designed to eliminate competing power centers that had paralyzed much of the decision-making process for years.

Rafsanjani has brought in a group of technocrats to revitalize Iran's stagnant economy. More than half of Parliament had called on him to keep Mohtashemi as interior minister.

The radicals wield considerable influence in Parliament, where Rafsanjani was replaced as speaker by hardliner Mehdi Karubi, his former deputy and a leading advocate of the spread of Khomeini's Islamic revolution.

Rafsanjani, in an apparent attempt to pacify his critics, told Iranian diplomats gathered in Tehran today that his policies do not deviate from Khomeini's strategy.

"What exists in our country ... is the presence of different tastes and currents of thought, and not a power struggle," Tehran Radio quoted him as saying.

On his policies, he noted: "Different times create different conditions which could affect actions."

"However, the effect will only be on tactics and not on principles," he said.

Iran was "prepared to establish friendly relations with all countries, except two or three," the radio quoted him as saying.

■ The United Nations began two days of talks with Iraq and Iran today in an effort to revive stalled attempts to achieve a permanent peace settlement.

Mosaics probe

INDIANAPOLIS, Indiana, Aug. 23, (AP). Two officers of Merchants National Corp. are under investigation by a US grand jury for looting \$1.2 million for the purchase of some sixth-century mosaics taken from a church in Cyprus, according to a report published today.

A grand jury is a panel of citizens who review evidence and decide whether a case should go to trial and, if so, which charges should be filed.

US attorney Deborah Daniels could not be reached immediately to confirm the report in the Indianapolis Star newspaper that Otto N. Frenzel III, chairman of Merchants National, and a Merchants National Bank vice-president, Timothy Massey, were the target of an investigation.

Frenzel and Massey approved the loan last summer to Peg & Goldberg, a Carmel, Indiana, art dealer who purchased the four mosaics in Switzerland. Earlier this month, a US judge in Indianapolis ordered Ms. Goldberg to return the mosaics to the Republic of Cyprus and the Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus. Ms. Goldberg filed a notice of appeal earlier this week.

An art dealer has filed notice in US district court that she will appeal a judge's ruling that four rare sixth-century Christian mosaics should be returned to Cyprus.



It's a whitewash

An Egyptian worker whitewashes one of three domes on top of Al Roushd Mosque in Cairo. The mosque, built in 1968, receives a new coat of paint every 10 years. (Reuters wirephoto)

PLO weak: Shamir

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 23, (Reuters). Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir today described as a sign of weakness a PLO ban on meetings between Palestinians from the occupied areas and Israeli officials.

Shamir's office said the premier told visiting US Congressman Bill Paxton that he recently met a number of "educated and experienced" Palestinians who were convinced he wanted peace and, this shocked the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Several local Palestinians have met Shamir in the past few months but they insist they told the Israeli leader only the PLO could make peace with the Jewish state. Salah Khalaf, Yasser Arafat's deputy in the mainstream PLO group Fatah, told French radio yesterday: "We have decided to stop contacts with the Israelis in spite of our conviction that these contacts allow a rapprochement between the two points of view and despite having encouraged such contacts in the past."

Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, said the decision was taken after the US delegation holding talks with the PLO in Tunis insisted that a solution could only be negotiated with Israel by Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

US asks for access

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23, (Reuters). The United States has asked Israel to give it unrestricted access to the family of a Palestinian-American boy found dead in the occupied West Bank, the State Department said yesterday.

The Israeli government has cordoned off the home of the parents of Amjad Hussein Jibreen, 14, who was found dead last Friday by an Arab shepherd outside the town of Ramallah.

News of the death triggered Palestinian unrest and led the Army last Saturday to seal off Ramallah and Al Bireh, where the Jibreen home is located.

His body was exhumed after relatives said the boy was shot in the heart, his head was smashed and he had cigarette burns. He had been reported missing last Wednesday.

Israeli military sources said on Monday he had been shot at close range, apparently by a pistol, and there were no signs of torture. The Army denied responsibility for his death.

Asked by reporters if the United States was satisfied with this explanation, Boucher said the United States has not yet received a response to its request for an official Israeli investigation into his death.

US officials from the consulate in occupied Jerusalem have been in touch with the Jibreen family, Boucher said. The United States has asked for unimpeded access to families of all Palestinian-Americans, he added.

"We have decided to stop Israeli-Palestinian contacts so that they will not be misunderstood," he said.

Shamir said in response: "This is a sign of weakness."

Justice Minister Dan Meridor, a member of Shamir's rightist Likud Party, said the PLO banned the contacts because it feared it would be excluded from the peace process.

"It is a sign that if there is something that bothers, frightens, and sparks worry in the hearts of the PLO leaders, it is

exactly the issue we are advancing, the meetings and the idea of elections," he told Army radio.

Israel, which refuses to talk to the PLO on grounds it is a terrorist group, in April proposed elections in the occupied territories to choose Palestinian representatives to negotiate limited self-rule.

Shamir hopes to find an alternative leadership to the PLO among Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, where the 1.7 million Arabs have been waging a revolt against Israeli rule for 20 months.

Plan for Afghan peace rejected

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan, Aug. 23, (AP). Anti-communist rebels today rejected Afghan President Najibullah's latest peace plan, saying it was a repackaged version of old overtures.

Najibullah Lefraye, spokesman for the Afghan rebels' self-proclaimed government-in-exile, said the communist leader's so-called peace proposal is "a collection of bankrupt ideas that have been rejected by the mujahideen."

Najibullah said yesterday: "Our people are fed up with the continuation of this war of attrition ... in which innocent people are dying. The government of Afghanistan is prepared to accept any suggestion toward a peaceful settlement."

"There is nothing new," said Azim Nasser-Zia, of the moderate National Islamic Front of Afghanistan. "Najib is just trying to use this for propaganda purposes and to keep himself in power."

"It's only new if he also steps aside and the (ruling communist) People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is out," he said.

Najibullah said he was ready to give up the presidency and even his life to achieve peace, but added that ignoring the reality of the party, armed forces and current situation in Afghanistan would only "intensify the war."

Afghanistan's communist leader, who goes by the single name of Najibullah called for elections within six months of a ceasefire in Afghanistan's 10-year-old civil war.

He also called for an international peace conference attended by Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, India and China, with the United States and the Soviet Union acting as guarantors of an agreement.

Najibullah's newest proposal mirrors one he offered last October, as well as one Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev made to the United Nations last December.

Both offers were rejected by the Afghan rebels, who refused to stop fighting while Najibullah and the Communist Party remained in power in Kabul.

Hamid Karzai, presidential spokesman for the interim rebel government, contended that Najibullah is reading a script authored by the Soviet Union.

"The proposals are coming directly from the Soviets since Najibullah doesn't speak with his own voice," said Karzai.

The rebel government, troubled by infighting, has rejected direct talks with Najibullah and has vowed to continue the war until he abdicates power. They have been fighting to oust Kabul's communist government for more than a decade.

In December 1979, Moscow sent in Red Army troops to replace one communist leader with another and put down the Muslim insurgency. The Soviet Union withdrew its soldiers from Afghanistan last February.

Western experts had predicted the US-supported rebels would oust Najibullah's government soon after Soviet military forces withdrew. Six months later, they have failed twice to capture Jalalabad.

The government announced yesterday that a Spanish journalist who entered Afghanistan illegally with Muslim rebels was arrested three weeks ago in the southern city of Kandahar.

Jorge Juan Garcia is now in Kabul and is under investigation, Foreign Ministry spokesman Mohammad Nabi Amani said.

Algerian Islamic party seeks legality

ALGIERS, Aug. 23, (Reuters). An Islamic fundamentalist party has become the fifth Algerian opposition group to seek legal status under a new political system that aims to sweep away one-party socialist rule.

The Algerian news agency APS said the Islamic Salvation Front, which urged application of Islamic law, submitted accreditation documents to the Interior Ministry yesterday.

APS quoted a leader of the party, Abbassi Madani, as predicting that nearly three million of Algeria's 24 million people would seek membership in his party.

This would make the party one of the main challenges to the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) in local elections scheduled for late this year, the first multi-party elections since independence in 1962.

Aramaic still charms

Jesus' language draws people to Maaloula

MAALLOULA, Syria, Aug. 23, (Reuters). The language used by Jesus Christ is drawing both Christian and Muslim pilgrims to this small Syrian town.

Maaloula's 5,000 inhabitants and 13,000 other people in nearby Bakhaa and Joubadeen still use Aramaic as their daily language.

"People who have lost all hope come here to pray for a miracle," said Father Michael Zaaroura, a Catholic priest who is senior clergyman at the church of St. Serge.

"It has a special charm and holy effect. I often see people with tears in their eyes when they hear the language which Jesus spoke and taught," he said.

Aramaic is a western Semitic language which was once the official language of the Persian empire.

Although the teaching of Jesus was preserved in Greek, scholars have found evidence they were translated from Aramaic.

Aramaic remained in wide use until the Arabs conquered the region to spread the new faith of Islam.

It is closely related to another ancient language, Syriac, with which it is sometimes confused, but Aramaic is about 1,000 years older, Zaaroura said.

About 100,000 people in Syria speak Syriac, which is used in the liturgy of the Syriac church.

Zaaroura said Aramaic was passed from generation to generation in Maaloula, 50 km (35 miles) northeast of Damascus, and the neighbouring towns but none of the people read or write it and all are able to speak Arabic with outsiders.

Peggy Say, the sister of Terry Anderson, the longest-held American kidnapped by pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon, visited Maaloula in February to pray for his release. Anderson, abducted in 1984, is still held.

Presidents and ordinary people have visited St. Serge, parts of which date from the fourth century.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, former US president Jimmy Carter, President Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia and the wife of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim have visited the church, Zaaroura said.

Saints Serge and Bacchus, widely revered among eastern Christians, are said to have been officers of the Roman empire martyred in Syria about the end of the third century for refusing



Father Zaaroura at the church of St. Serge.

to take part in pagan rites.

The church was built soon after 313, the year Constantine the Great ended official persecution of Christianity, which rapidly changed from a hunted underground cult to the empire's dominant faith.

The empire's conversion is reflected in the unique altar stones at St. Serge.

Icons covering the church

walls are also unique. The most famous, showing the Virgin holding the infant Jesus, is said to have been copied from an original by Saint Luke the evangelist, whom eastern Christians believe to have been a painter as well as a physician and writer.

A new hotel has been built in Maaloula to cater for foreigners 25,000 of whom visited last year — up from 18,000 in 1987

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kurdish parliament: Leaders of 25 million Kurds spread through five countries have agreed on plans to set up a parliament-in-exile to promote the interests of their people, a Kurdish official said yesterday.

Salah Jmhor, who described himself as a "representative to the United Nations," said the agreement came at a meeting of 30 "experts" in London last weekend. (AP)

Women pickpockets: Nine women pickpockets belonging to a clan that sends its ladies out to steal have been arrested, Egyptian police said today.

The women were among 70 pickpockets rounded up in a one-day swoop to clean up Cairo's streets as hundreds of thousands of Arabs flooded into Egypt for summer vacations.

The lightfingered clan, which has members scattered throughout lower Egypt, are called Hangaraniya. The name has no specific meaning in Arabic. (Reuters)

3 soldiers killed: Three Turkish soldiers were killed and five wounded in an overnight gunbattle with separatist Kurdish rebels in southeast Turkey, official sources said today.

They said the clash with rebels of the outlawed Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) occurred yesterday afternoon on the slopes of the rugged Gabar mountain near Sirnak.

Nearly 1,600 people have been killed in the PKK's five-year-old armed campaign for autonomy in southeast Turkey which they say is part of an ancient Kurdish homeland extending into Iran, Iraq and Syria. (Reuters)

UN urged: A Moroccan pressure group for the release of political prisoners asked the United Nations yesterday to send an urgent investigation mission to Morocco after the death of a hunger-striker in a Rabat prison.

The Action Committee for the Liberation of Political Prisoners in Morocco said in a statement it sent a message to the president of the UN human rights sub-committee in Geneva asking for a UN inquiry mission.

According to Moroccan Organisation for Human Rights, another pressure group, the Moroccan student, Abdelhak Chhaden, died Saturday at the Al Arou prison in Rabat. He had started his hunger-strike in protest against hunger strikers are in a coma, human rights militants said. (UPI)

US hopes: The United States hopes that UN talks on the reunification of Cyprus can resume soon, State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher said yesterday.

Boucher told reporters the department had seen reports that Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş had rejected the United Nations plan for negotiations, but had had no formal notification of a decision by the Turkish Cypriot legislative assembly.

Cyprus President George Vassiliou has said he would accept the UN suggestion for a federal republic, while Turkish Cypriots have strongly disagreed. (Reuters)

Quake kills 2: Severe earthquakes early this week spawned landslides that killed two people and hundreds of livestock, destroyed half a dozen bridges and left a major highway impassable, the Ethiopian news agency reported.

Eight people also were injured in the four tremors that hit northeastern Ethiopia between Sunday and yesterday and registered as high as 6.5 on the open-ended Richter scale, the agency reported last night.

The fatalities occurred when landslides overturned four trucks as they surged across and badly damaged a 30-kilometer (19-mile) stretch of highway leading to the Red Sea port of Assab, said the agency. (AP)

Sudan extends truce

KHARTOUM, Aug. 23, (AP). Sudan's military government will extend a unilateral ceasefire in the six-year-old civil war for another month, a senior officer said in remarks published today.

Brig. Dominic Kasiano was quoted by the armed forces newspaper as saying that the ceasefire renewal showed the government's "good intentions" toward the rebels despite failure of the first round of peace talks between the two sides last weekend.

Whether the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army would continue to hold its fire, as it has since last April, was questionable.

Kasiano said that the government, which took office after a military coup June 30, "has shown good intent of seeking to halt the bloodshed and find a durable and comprehensive solution to the question of southern Sudan."

He said the ceasefire will be extended until the end of September.

Kasiano's post as a member of the 15-man ruling council and the finality with which he spoke appeared to indicate that the extension already has been decided by the junta chaired by Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan, Al Bashir.

The rebels first declared a unilateral ceasefire last April to allow a massive United Nations-coordinated relief operation to distribute food and supplies to starving Sudanese in the south.

The rebels stretched their ceasefire until the end of June. Al Bashir's government, in turn, ordered a ceasefire during July and extended it until the end of this month. Fighting has ceased almost completely since April.

Kasiano told the armed forces newspaper that the talks last Saturday and Sunday with the rebel SPLA were "a positive step in bringing viewpoints closer."

He brushed aside SPLA demands that the military government abide by peace framework agreements reached with the overthrown civilian government of premier Sadek El Mahdi. Kasiano said the accords had to be renegotiated because "we were not a party to them."

KD10 million KFAED loan to Egypt

Khorafi to sign steel agreement

DIRECTOR of Operations at the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) Hisham Ibrahim Al Waqayyan has said that KFAED has of late evaluated the development of the steel industries project in Halwan, Egypt and agreed to contribute to the financing of this project with KD10 million for twenty years at easy interest terms.

He told a local newspaper that the relevant agreement on this project would be signed during the upcoming visit by HH the Amir to Egypt by Kuwait's Minister of Finance Jassem Mohammad Al Khorafi, the KFAED authorised board chairman and Egypt's Minister of State for International Co-operation Dr Morris Makram.

Waqayyan said that there was a study under way aimed at expanding a polyester factory owned by the Egyptian Synthetic Silk Company, which would be one of the subjects to be discussed with the Egyptian officials during the Amir's visit to Cairo.

Funding

He added that discussions would deal with a number of proposed development projects for which Egypt would seek KFAED funding, stressing the fact that Egypt was one of the best clients of KFAED which regularly paid its debts.

He pointed out that the KFAED started operating in Egypt back in July 1964 with a loan offered to the Egyptian government for funding the Suez Canal upgrading project at 4 per cent interest rate, and that

the loan was fully paid up, and that the KFAED had up to 1988 offered Egypt a total of KD76,700.00 millions in loans to fund different kinds of projects in the country's vital economic enterprises.

Loans

Waqayyan said that KFAED also offered a total of 360 loans with a total value of KD1584 millions to 65 countries, of which KD1200 had been drawn and KD374 million repaid at an average interest rate of 2-3 per cent, and that 42 other countries, including Arab and developing states, benefitted from KD18.5 million paid in 77 grants.

He added that the KFAED-extended loans went to 16 Arab countries, 30

African states and 15 Asian nations, and that 30 per cent of the loans were used to support the transport and communication sector, 21 per cent went to the agricultural field, 17.5 per cent to the industrial sector and 23 per cent to the power sector.

He added that KFAED also extended grants in the name of the government of Kuwait to sisterly and friendly countries.

Asked about KFAED's activities in Jordan, Waqayyan said that KFAED had so far offered 22 loans to the Jordanian government with a total value of KD111.6 million, while a study is currently being undertaken to fund the Unity Dam Project, one of the leading hydro-electrical projects in Jordan with an estimated cost of KD150 million.

Study aid suspended if students wed aliens

A NEW programme to institute the Kuwaiti-Egyptian Cultural Agreement will be signed by HH the Amir during his visit to Cairo at the end of this month, Salem Hamad Al Roumi, Director of the Cultural Relations Department at the Ministry of Education said.

The programme includes granting scholarships to 10 Kuwaiti students at Egyptian universities and scholarships for three Egyptian students to study at Kuwait University. The ministry is granted scholarships from 25 different friendly countries and these scholarships will meet the needs of Kuwait in those majors that are not offered by Kuwait University, the official said.

He added that conditions for applying for these scholarships depend on the charter governing dispensing scholarships by each individual university. Some of these scholarships comprise limited payments to students and others only exempt Kuwaiti students from tuition fees, he said.

Roumi denied that the ministry has a law preventing Kuwaiti students who are on scholarship abroad from getting married. But, he added that the terms of the scholarship are suspended and money that might have already been spent on the student has to be repaid — if the student marries a non-Kuwaiti. He also denied that the ministry obliges students to work in government departments on their return to Kuwait after completing their graduation. Graduates have the right to work at any place of their choosing, he said.

Visit praised

KUWAIT, Aug 23. (KUNA): A Kuwaiti weekly magazine praised the historical visit, which HH the Amir of Kuwait will make to Egypt on Aug 28.

"Mirat Al-Ommah" magazine indicated, in its latest issue, that this historical visit will play an important role in crystallising the two countries' joint stances to achieve joint goals.

HH the Amir is very well respected by the Arab peoples, particularly Egyptian people, the weekly noted.

The magazine also said the visit comes at a time when the Arab world is facing difficulties, especially inside the occupied land and Lebanon.



Accident or arson?

An Egyptian resident of Al Zour area claimed yesterday that he lost over KD7,000 in damages as a result of fire which broke out in the house while he was away in Egypt. The man, Waheed Abdul Fattah supplied a certificate from the Investigations Department of the Interior Ministry which assessed damages of electrical appliances at KD4,000, damages to furniture at KD1,500 in addition to burnt-out cash of over KD1,500. Abdul Fattah claimed that his house caught fire from a neighbouring house and said that it was earlier reported that teenagers were setting fire to some houses in

the area.

But Abdul Fattah blamed the firemen for preventing people from trying to rescue some of their belongings from their houses. He claimed that the firemen were banning people from coming near their houses though the fire was still slightly away in neighbouring houses. He said that his friends tried to save some of his furniture before the fire reached it, but firemen prevented them saying it was dangerous to them.

Investigations into the circumstances leading to the cause of the fire are being conducted.

Influx of house help makes women irresponsible: husbands

THE influx of maids at Kuwaiti houses is a common phenomenon that portends serious repercussions and will have far-reaching social effects, casting apprehensive doubts on the future of the Kuwaiti family. This "hypothesis" is based on the housemaid having deeply installed herself as the "prime real keeper of the house," in the absence of housewives away from home.

A local daily has surveyed a number of Kuwaiti families to sound them out on the escalating issue of "hired house help", focusing attention on what husbands had to say on this issue.

Misad Al Doukhi has said that the presence of housemaids with the Kuwaiti family community is encouraged by a number of factors. These ranged from being a necessary ostentatious social show-off, particularly when the house harbours more than one maid, and the absence of housewives from home. The husbands are to blame being decision makers.

He pointed out that the immediate effect of the presence of a housemaid at home is the growing away by family mem-

bers from self-dependence as a natural outcome of the fact that these obedient creatures are at their beck-and-call.

Had there been no maids in the house, every one in the family, particularly the females would have to rely on themselves to get things done and develop a sense of responsibility, he added.

Ghassan Mustafa, said that he is totally against the idea of admitting housemaids into the family. He cited prevalence of hair-raising stories of how some husbands eventually hooked up with the maid, ushering in a dramatic undoing of their family life.

He blamed all husbands who consented to hire house help at the instance of their wives, highlighting the indescribable serious effects of housemaids on child upbringing.

Justifications

Hamed Abdullah Al Rashoo, said although the presence of housemaids at home would find justifications in today's demanding family life requirements, it is vital to delegate their responsibilities so as not end up filling the place of one family member, or be in charge of child raising.

He said that he could imagine a house without a maid, where a positive sense of co-operation permeated the atmosphere and family members were fully dependent on themselves.

Fahd Al Doukhi said the invasion of housemaids is due to the loss of the house mistress to outdoor employment, making the presence of the maid an unpleasant necessity.

He urged all women not to forget their essential role in life as mothers whose children needed all the time for guidance, care and bringing up. He warned against the consequences of leaving this vital role to maids, who could inadvertently contribute to negative cultural, religious, moral and traditional aspects of the child's outlook.

He said that it is a heart-rendering sight to see children flocking around the maid for food, guidance and rebuke when at fault, caring and cuddling when distressed and many such occasions — simply because their mama is not available to look after them, or has gladly given up this responsibility to the common family plague, the maid.

Mauritanian interests in Dakar now with Kuwait

KUWAIT, Aug 23. (KUNA): Kuwait today expressed deep regret over deterioration of relations between Senegal and Mauritania which led to severing ties between the two West African countries, announcing at the same time, that it will look after Mauritanian interests in Dakar.

Acting Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, replying to reporters' query in this regard, said "We regret that such an issue develops to the level of severing relations between these two Muslim neighbours."

He added: "We are maintaining close contacts with the brothers in both countries and HH the Amir has been continuing his personal efforts and concern on this matter in order to resolve the differences between the two Muslim countries."

Sheikh Sabah announced that Kuwait, at the request of Mauritania, will care for Nouakchott's interests in Senegal, expressing, in the meantime, Kuwait's readiness to do the same and look after Senegalese interests in Nouakchott.

He said that on basis of Kuwait's distinguished brotherly and Islamic relations with both countries, "We are ready to shoulder all the burdens and go on with efforts to remove differences between the two countries, which we hope are only a passing summer cloud, especially as we are at the doors of an Islamic summit to be held in Dakar early next year."

HH the Amir, in his capacity as chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), had delegated State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaimi, at the start of the ethnic conflict, to convey messages to leaders of the two countries.

Zakat house disbursement

ZAKAT House disbursed an amount of KD109,500 financing a broad-spectrum of charitable projects, Abdul Aziz Ahmad Al Bizal, director of resources development department of the house said.

The fund was established to encourage Muslims to contribute to charitable works and to ensure collection of regular sources of finance for different charitable projects. A total of 600 persons regularly contribute to the activities of the fund in addition to periodic contributions from society at large.

MEW report

Power, water consumers up 103 times since 1951

THERE were over 253,000 consumers of electricity and water as at the end of last year, the Ministry of Electricity and Water said yesterday.

Annual statistical reports indicate that the number of consumers has risen by 103 times since 1951. Consumers in 1951 totalled 2,462 which increased to over 47,000 in 1960, and 118,700 in 1970 and shot up to 217,000 in 1980. Consumption of electrical power also increased considerably during the past 30 years. Annual consumption per capita of electric power was only slightly over 1,000 kilowatts in 1957, and rose to over 10,000 kilowatts/hour in 1988.

During the past 10 years, water and electricity revenues increased by over 180 per cent. Total revenues collected in 1979 amounted to over KD22.3 million and KD62.2 million by the end of 1988. Revenues went up by 12 per cent in 1988 compared to 1987. MEW collected KD55.5 million in 1987 and the only drop in revenues was between 1985 and 1986. Revenues in 1985 amounted to KD52.3 million while revenues in 1986 were KD50 million.

The report added that during 1988, highest revenues of KD7.7 million were collected during June followed with KD6.2 million in April. Lowest revenues in 1988 were during Nov with KD3.5 million followed with KD3.7 million in May. Last year's revenues from electricity were KD28.2 million, followed by fresh water with KD19.6 million and the rest from brackish water.

There are 151.5 kilometers of ultrahigh voltage underground networks, 315 kilometers of ultrahigh voltage aerial lines, 347 power sub-stations and over 3,000 kilometers of various types of illuminated roads in Kuwait, the report said.

Kuwait is a pioneer in the art of producing fresh water by the distillation process, the report added. In the past, Kuwait had to rely on a few water wells and water imported from the Shatt Al Arab of Iraq. In 1925, a sailer went to the Shatt Al Arab on his sailboat and brought the first quantity of fresh water from there in barrels. Sailboats thus came to transport water from the Shatt Al Arab for several years and in 1939 a company to run the fleet of sailboats to transport water from the Shatt Al Arab was established. Three water reservoirs were built at the



Raqabah, Minister of Electricity and Water

Arabian Gulf shore to collect the water brought by the sailboats and had a daily capacity of 8,500 gallons. The company had 45 sailboats to transport water in 1946. Subsequently, they were replaced by water tankers.

The report added that Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) established a small water distilling station at Ahmadi Port in 1951 with a capacity of 80,000 gallons a day. A part of this production was transported to Kuwait City through a water pipeline established for this purpose. The first water distilling station in Shuwaikh area was established in 1953 with a capacity of one million gallons a day. The station has been developed through the past 35 years to reach ten distilling units with a total capacity of 32 million gallons a day.

However, this capacity was reduced to 28 million gallons a day in 1988. Three of the distilling units at Shuwaikh station were suspended due to the reduction of their efficiency and the uneconomic feasibility of undertaking repairs.

The state developed and established new water distilling stations due to the increase of demand for fresh water and electricity. Station of North Shuwaiba began its first production in 1965. The station consisted of seven distilling units with a total capacity of 14 million gallons a day which was reduced to 9 million gallons a day last year after the closure of three units for economic reasons.

The first water distilling unit in South Shuwaiba was operated in 1971 with a total capacity of five million gallons a day. The station consisted of 6 units with a total capacity of 30 million gallons a day.

The report pointed out that in 1978 three distilling units at Doha Eastern Station began

production. The station now consists of seven units having a total capacity of 42 million gallons a day. Three distilling units at West Doha Station began production in 1983. The station now consists of 16 units with a total capacity of 96 million gallons a day, it said.

Commenting on underground fresh water, the report said that limited quantities of fresh water were discovered at Rawdhan and Umm Al Aish underground water wells in 1962. The natural reserves of the two wells is estimated at 40,000 million gallons. The production capacity of the two wells totals 1.5 million gallons, but can be increased to 3.5 million a day in urgent cases for a period of 10 to 15 days only three times a year. The present limit is intended to use this reserve water in the case of any unforeseen emergency.

Reservoirs

Fresh water produced is preserved in ground water reservoirs that have a capacity of 1889 million gallons. Beside 34 water towers distributed over different areas of Kuwait to ensure a stable and fixed pressure at the water pipe networks, the capacity of each tower is 660,000 gallons (3,000 cubic meters).

Kuwait also built Kuwait Towering Towers which can supply high buildings in Kuwait City with water. The main tower is 187 metres high and the second is 140 metres. Reservoir of each tower has a capacity of one million gallons. The report added that the total capacity of present water distilling stations in Kuwait amount to 236 million gallons a day beside three new units at South Zour station that have capacity of 18 million gallons a day. The three units are presently being experimented with the report added.

According to MEW statistics, average daily fresh water consumption amounted to 118.6 million imperial gallons in 1988, marking an increase of 116.6 million gallons in 1987. Maximum consumption recorded in 1988 amounted to 143.7 million gallons a day. Total production of fresh water increased from 1,773 million gallons a year at the end of 1950s to 43,669 million gallons last year. Average individual consumption increased from 3,986 gallons a year in 1959 to 220,305 gallons in 1988. This figure is on a level to the average consumption in advanced countries, the report added.



Bingo winners

Arab Times Bingo No. 71 winners received their prizes yesterday. From left are Feroz Shaikh (First Full House), Santana Cardozo (Four Corners) and Lancy Vaz (Top Line).

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Arab info committee meetings successful

TUNIS, Aug 23. (KUNA): Kuwaiti Information Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Jaafar today expressed satisfaction over the co-operative and understanding atmosphere that characterised meetings of the 47th session of the Arab Information Standing Committee, concluded here late last night.

Jaafar, who is heading Kuwait's delegation to the committee's meeting, told KUNA here that the conference agreed on importance of achieving qualitative leap in the Arab media to confront the aggressive challenges that face the Arab nation at informational arena.

The committee had discussed a number of issues, headed by the joint Arab Media Co-operation Plan for next year, the serious use of the Arab Satellite (ARAB-SAT), the Afro-Arab Mass Communications Co-operation as well as boosting and promoting the Arab Cultural and Media Works in the occupied Arab lands.

Coming decade to see more expats in Kuwait: economist

Three options for economy

AN economic researcher at Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) predicted more demand in Kuwait for expatriate manpower in the coming decade. Dr. Sadiq Saleh, a researcher at KISR's Economic Technology Department, predicted in a lecture delivered at KISR, that the percentage of expatriate manpower will increase from the present 80 per cent to as much as 90 per cent by the year 2000.

He added that this will result in more imbalance in the population structure

in the country.

Kuwait in accordance with its long-term planning strategy and other developmental plans, aims at achieving what is described as a population balance between Kuwaitis and expatriates by the year 2000 or maximum by the year 2010. This was repeatedly voiced by top planning officials in the country, who emphasised that the way to achieve this is to increase the contribution of nationals in the country's workforce.

Kuwaitis at present form only about

27 per cent of Kuwait's 2 million population. Majority of Kuwaiti manpower is concentrated in government jobs where they form about 44.5 per cent of the government's 150,000-strong workforce.

But their presence in the over 600,000-strong private sector workforce is almost negligible as they form only 1.2 per cent. Attempts are being made by the government to increase the Kuwaiti presence in the private sector.

Saleh did not exactly say on what basis he built his conclusion. But he said

that a study conducted by KISR a few years ago, predicted three choices for the future course of the Kuwaiti economy.

The first proposes the continuity of the market situations on the same course that prevailed during the first half of this decade. According to this hypothesis, the study predicts that the Kuwaiti economy will depend more on non-oil sectors, thus increasing the contribution of these sectors to the gross domestic product, GDP. This will particularly be clear to the financial

services, bulk and retail trade and service sectors in general throughout the next decade till the year 2000.

Construction

It also expects that the construction sector will regain its activity, thus increasing the demand for non-oil industries and construction materials industry in particular. The study also predicts a limited improvement in the re-export business, provided peace is strengthened in the region. This will lead to a drop in the inflation rates and an indirect drop in government revenues.

He added that the second choice of the study predicts that oil revenues will continue at lowest levels achieved in 1986, throughout the next decade till the year 2000. He said that this hypothesis draws a pessimistic picture of the future of the country's economy. It predicts a retreat in the economic activity and the rise of a real deficit in the state budget and the trade balance by the second half of the next decade. It predicts a drop in the prices of commodities and services.

The third option is more optimistic. It predicts a 1 per cent annual increase in the oil prices (calculated from the average increase in the international oil prices achieved during the first third of the current decade). The third hypothesis thus predicts a continuous real annual growth rate of 3 per cent throughout the next decade till the year 2000. It will result in financial surplus in the state budget, trade balance and payment balance compounded with a slight increase in the rates of local inflation.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Amiri cable

KUWAIT, Aug 23, (KUNA): HH the Amir sent a congratulatory cable to the Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on the occasion of his country's national day.

Premier's cable

KUWAIT, Aug 23, (KUNA): HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah sent a cable of congratulations to Prime Minister of Romania, Constantin Dăscălescu on the occasion of his country's national day.

Jaber leaves

KUWAIT, Aug 23, (KUNA): Kuwait's Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamid Al Sabah today left for Tunis to take part in the 24th session of Arab Information Ministers slated for tomorrow.

The permanent committee for Arab information, which concluded deliberations in Tunis last night, recommended the ratification of the Arab information plan at the international arena.

The committee also recommended to support information and cultural activities in the occupied Arab lands by member states contribution to implement information projects concerning the Palestinian uprising.

Zayed message

ABU DHABI, Aug 23, (KUNA): President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan has sent a message to the Yugoslav president on the next summit of Non-Aligned Movement.

It was reported here today that the message was delivered through diplomatic channels and it comes in response to a message received recently by Sheikh Zayed from his Yugoslav counterpart.

GCC meeting

KUWAIT, Aug 23, (KUNA): Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today reiterated that the forthcoming meeting of the GCC Ministerial Council in Jeddah late this month will tackle current hot issues on Arab and international arenas.

He told reporters that the meeting is an ordinary one, and said it would discuss the situation in Lebanon and developments of the Palestinian cause in the light of the continued heroic intifada (uprising) in addition to situation in the region.

Sheikh Sabah also indicated that the ministerial meeting would review the relations and co-operation among the six member states in various fields and what had been achieved in view of resolutions adopted by previous sessions.

Anti-smoking union

CAIRO, Aug 23, (QNA): It was announced here today that an Anti-Smoking Arab Union will be founded with representatives from all Arab countries, with a view to unifying efforts aimed at combating smoking.

A professor at the National Cancer Institute in Egypt and his country's representative to the union-founding meeting to be held in Amman on Sept 2-4, said that the meeting will be devoted to selecting a chairman, secretary-general and assistant secretary-generals.

He said that the union will prepare a special study to establish the working plan in the field of combating smoking, which will include a field survey intended to determine the volume of the problem in the Arab area.

Pearl encyclopaedia

A BAHRAINI researcher working in statistics at the Environment Protection Committee is currently preparing a scientific encyclopaedia on Bahraini oyster pearls which is considered to be the first Arabic language encyclopaedia on pearls. There are several identical encyclopaedias which were published in English, Japanese and French languages.

The new Arabic encyclopaedia will be published in two binders. The researcher, Shaker Khamdan said that he has completed the first binder which includes issues on types of Bahraini pearls and their locations in the Gulf.



Sabah receives handicapped

Acting Premier Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber yesterday received at the Foreign Ministry headquarters Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmed Al Jaber who introduced members of the Handicapped Club, who won 46 gold, silver and bronze medals in the two championships held recently in Britain.

Integration opportunity missing

Youth demand speedy solution to lack of recreational facilities

YOUTH in Kuwait are deprived from entering most public areas and have raised their voices in protest. They demanded a speedy solution pointing out that a small number of reckless youths are solely responsible for isolated acts of bad behaviour. They also said the people should realise this fact because it is wrong to generalise such delinquency on all youths.

A local daily interviewed a number of youths to highlight their opinions and suggestions on this issue.

Rasha Muntari Al Motawa — 16 years old said she usually goes to sea clubs along with her family where they spend good times. She added that on many occasions she has been bothered by harassment of youths even though she supports mixing with the opposite sex and rejects having special admission days for male youths different the days designated for families. She indicated that this policy deprives youth from the opportunity of integrating with a cross-section of society at clubs with people of all ages. Preventing male youths from mixing with females will naturally provoke such inadequate behaviour and will make youths more stubborn. She said that male youths are victimised by such decisions while it is really important for them to be understood more care should particularly be given to this issue. She added social integration and supervision of youths will prevent inadequate behaviour.

Fajer Abdullah — 14 years old said that she is accustomed to go to the sea front, Salimiya shopping centre, and clubs where she along with other girlfriends spend a lot of fun times. She added that on most occasions she

is forced to return to her house because of the harassment by male youth. She believes that mixing with the opposite sex will eventually lead to harm.

Fajer indicated that not all youths are at fault but, unfortunately the bad will affect the good. She believes that separating males from females is an ideal solution to this problem and it should be generalised at all places, by assigning specific days for these youths.

Dhiya Khaled — 16 years old, said travelling and benefiting from leisure time by attending computer training courses is good way to spend a holiday and to avoid feeling bored. She indicated that going to sea clubs is a form of relaxation and provides a source of clean entertainment with friends. She added that harassment often occurs at sea clubs, but by respecting her person it gives her an ability to control herself when faced with such situation. She blamed girls for trying to fall into problems with boys because they themselves tend to attract boys by smiling and sending other signals of approachability. Even though Dhiya blames girls, she does not mind mixing with the opposite sex because she said it is a natural thing seen at universities and work centres.

Asma Bo Hamra — 15 years old said that it is her first time to obtain a membership at a sea club. She also goes to public gardens, the Entertainment City or commercial centres where more often than not, she is subjected to harassment by youths. Asma believes that separating boys from girls will make things more complicated and that by giving boys a chance to mix with the opposite sex, normal social etiquette will be maintained.

Thamer Al Motawa said that he is accustomed to going to the sea front and the Entertainment City where he spends pleasant times. Unfortunately, he added, boys have only specific days to enjoy their leisure times. Fridays and Thursdays are usually designated for families only which make outings difficult particularly during school days. He said that they can't be blamed because of a small section of reckless youths adding that youths should respect themselves. He called upon officials to provide youths with recreational places identical to families saying that he does not mind being watched.

Tareq Othman — 15 years old said that at most times he goes to clubs to spend his leisure times, but unfortunately a number of youths do not realise that their anti-social behaviour adversely reflects the general standing of all youths. He believes that preventing boys from mixing with girls will not resolve the problem but will instead make it more complicated. He said officials should try and understand the feelings of youth who are now being deprived of living in a normal atmosphere. "Officials themselves were youths once," he added.

Aber Al Aber — 22 years old said that hotels and sea clubs are really among the best places to be at to spend leisure periods. He pointed out that youths are deprived from going to many other nice places and that while at the sea front he always feels he is being watched by police patrols. He believes that strict censorship on youths will induce a feeling of stress, a feeling of not being trusted and negatively affect the normal development of youth.

Dubai, sports capital of Gulf becomes international draw

DUBAI, Aug 23, (AP): Oil-rich Dubai, the sports capital of the Gulf, is moving onto the world stage by hosting a range of tournaments from soccer to snooker that are drawing sports stars from around the globe.

The tiny southern Gulf emirate, a bustling trading centre and sea port, recently opened the first championship golf course in the Middle East.

Within 18 months, the Emirates Golf Club course, 10 miles (17 kilometres) out in the desert has attracted hundreds of players from around the world, notably Europe and Japan.

The club is an oasis, a well-watered 140-acre patch of green in the desert surrounding the port city.

"We've had to close membership well before our planned time and now there's a long waiting list," manager Rodney Bogg told the Associated Press.

"It has combined very well with business. I know several people who had intended to leave Dubai, but changed their minds because of the course."

Bogg, a Briton who has managed top clubs in Africa and Europe, said: "This is definitely the best atmosphere for sports."

The club hosted the year's first European PGA Championship in March and Bogg said "it proved to be an exceptional success on the field and off it. The feedback was just unbelievable for the country."

The tourney is now a permanent fixture on the European men's pro circuit.

In September, the club will open the first bowling

greens in the Gulf. The greens will be floodlit and Bogg believes they will bring more sports stars to the club.

The emirate, with the population of 400,000 that includes many expatriates, has a strong soccer and snooker base in addition to chess, athletics, cycling, rallying, bowling, handball, volleyball, water-skiing, rugby union, softball, tennis, squash, polo, showjumping, motocross, karting, sailing and hockey.

A driving force in Dubai sports is the ruling Maktoum family's interest in horse racing. The Maktoums are a power in British and European racing and this year their horses have swept the four major races in Britain.

Dubai's prize money is also a draw. The annual powerboat race at the Jebel Ali Harbour offers more than \$300,000.

A significant sporting coup for Dubai came in November 1986 when the city hosted the prestigious Chess Olympiad with more than 100 countries taking part.

Many players, given five-star, red carpet treatment, said that they had never been accorded with such hospitality before in any Olympiad.

Dubai's love affair with chess goes back to the early 1980s when local boy Saeed Ahmed became the first Arab to capture the world under-14 crown. He later finished second in the world under-16 championship.

Club raises scientific awareness among girls

THE girls branch of the Science Club was established three years ago to give girls the opportunity to utilise their leisure time beneficially while practicing their hobbies. The director of the girls branch, Mona Ghanem Mubarak said that the club patronises scientific activities and works at spreading scientific awareness among girls in Kuwaiti society. She indicated that the cultural, public relations and technical committees at the club co-operate with other clubs and different scientific authorities to upgrade members' scientific, social and cultural levels.

She indicated that members will have better opportunities in contacting the outside world through their participation in contests, camps, scientific courses, and exchange visits and experiences with world scientific clubs.

Conditions for memberships have been kept to a minimum to encourage a larger response from girls to join the club. Members should be Kuwaitis and be able to pay an annual membership fee of KD7.

Mona pointed out that the club was divided into sections. The above 8 years old stage has 542 members, the 5-8 years old stage which includes girls and boys has 366 members. She said that due to the club's limited capabilities at the present time, it only accepts a total of 300 new members annually. The numbers will be increased when larger headquarters are established.

She pointed out that the girls branch of the Science Club contains five sections at which members attend training courses. The chemistry section, the agricultural section, the electronics section, the environment protection section and the computer section.

Mona indicated that members are placed among sections according to their interests. Regarding activities outside the club, she added that several training courses are organised for members at different establishments and authorities.

Saudi relief

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 23, (KUNA): The Saudi Arabian government today donated \$5 million to the Malaysian Natural Disaster Relief Fund.

The cheque was handed over by the Saudi Charge d'Affaires Sheikh Mohamed Said Al Qary to the minister in the prime minister's department Dr Yusof Nor here.

Qatar turns away Australian sheep

Saudis warned of harm to trade

DOHA, Aug 23, (Agencies): Qatar health authorities have quarantined a shipment of Australian sheep after preliminary clinical tests showed they were infected by an animal disease known as Maltese Fever even as Australia warned Saudi Arabia that its rejection of 309,000 live sheep on the grounds they were diseased could harm overall trade relations.

The Qatar News Agency quoted an unnamed Public Health Ministry official as saying that the slaughter of the sheep was immediately halted and preparations begun to ship the animals to Australia.

The official said the move was part of the ministry's efforts "to ensure disease-free livestock for human consumption."

The report followed neighbouring Saudi Arabia's rejection recently of five shiploads of Australian sheep, on the grounds they carried the contagious and fatal disease bluetongue and sheep pox.

Australian authorities, alarmed at the threat to their livestock exports, maintain that bluetongue and sheep pox do not exist in Australia.

Australian officials in Can-

berra and in the Gulf said the sheep turned away by Saudi Arabia were given clean bills of health in Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates.

An Australian delegation led by Dr Gordon Murray of the Ministry of Primary Industry and Energy left Saudi Arabia Monday after three days of talks with officials.

Suspension

Canberra later announced it was suspending live sheep exports to Saudi Arabia.

Murray and his delegation later visited other Gulf countries seeking to sell the sheep.

Two of the five vessels turned away by Saudi Arabia are calling at Gulf ports. One, the Kuwait-registered carrier Al Krain, is expected in the southern Gulf port of Dubai tomorrow.

Meanwhile in Canberra Trade Minister Michael Duffy called in the Saudi ambassador to pass on a letter to Commerce Minister Sulaiman Abdulaziz Al Salem describing the dispute over the diseased sheep as potentially very serious.

Saudi Arabia takes half of Australia's live-sheep exports, a trade worth up to 105 million dollars (\$78 million) that farmers

regard as a vital diversification from sales of frozen meat.

Australia has rejected Saudi findings that the sheep had bluetongue and sheep pox diseases, suspended live-sheep sales to Saudi Arabia and sent its ambassador back to Riyadh from holiday.

Australia's total exports to Saudi Arabia were worth \$244 million (\$185 million US) in calendar 1988, with sheep the largest single item.

Saudi Arabian exports to Australia, mainly minerals, were worth 396 million dollars (\$300 million).

An Australian delegation headed by a government veterinary official is touring Gulf states discussing the Saudi ban, but currently there are no talks going on with the Saudis.

Kuwait and Bahrain, which have taken some of the 300,000 unwanted sheep, are satisfied they do not bear the diseases, which are not present in commercial flocks in Australia, an Australian government spokesman said.

"We are very concerned about the situation," said a spokesman for the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation.

Commodity subsidy

A STATISTICAL report issued yesterday by the Department of Supplies and Consumers Protection at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, said that the ministry paid KD961,107 last month on subsidising a number of essential commodities.

The report said that KD668,500 of the amount was paid to subsidise commodities provided through the ration card, while KD84,000 were paid to subsidise children milk and tea.

Another KD137,000 were paid to subsidise construction materials and steel. The report added that during last month, the department issued 357 ration cards, benefiting 1,778 persons. The department also penalised 70 offenders for violations.

Robbery

THIEVES broke into a house in the absence of the owners and decamped with an amount of KD50,000 in cash and some valuable jewellery.

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BAHRAIN DIGEST

New home for the handicapped

BAHRAIN will build a new home for handicapped children it was announced by the social rehabilitation section at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

The decision to start the project came in the wake of the destruction of the old centre at the same site last month. The fire believed to have been caused by electrical short circuit rendered the old home unsuitable for disabled children numbering about 20.

Blueprints for the new Development and Rehabilitation Home, which is expected to cost BD800,000, are expected to be completed shortly. Construction of the project is scheduled to last one year.

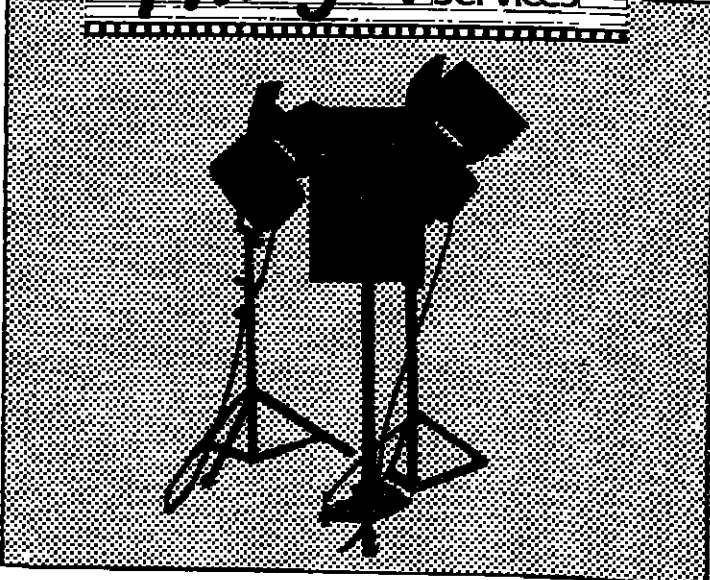
According to Mrs Hanan Kamal, chief of social rehabilitation, the new home has been specially designed to suit the needs of the disabled comprising features like ramps.

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Thought for today

How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child — William Shakespeare, English writer (1564-1616).

Peace efforts stall, PLO unity frays

Internal upheaval

TWENTY months into the uprising against Israeli occupation, sharp differences are emerging among Palestinians about the intifada's direction.

Prominent Palestinians, however, argue that the internal debate hasn't shaken the underlying commitment to continue the uprising as the only way to spur negotiations and achieve an independent state.

"Internally, we have some difficulties. We are in the midst of a re-evaluation of our tactics. But the dialogue is healthy," said Ghassan Khatib, a lecturer at Bir Zeit University in the West Bank.

The differences coincide with greater Palestinian violence against Israelis, and among Palestinians themselves. They also follow a lack of progress in the US-PLO dialogue, and in efforts to arrange Palestinian negotiations with Israel.

Palestinian leftists are urging the PLO to make no further compromises on the diplomatic front. Some are pushing for more violent actions, such as the use of weapons, to step up pressure on Israel in what they see as a long-term war of attrition.

Yet some of the uprising's more ambitious tactics have flopped, raising fears among some Palestinians that the credibility of the underground leadership could be undermined.

For example, many workers in the West Bank ignored a call from the pro-PLO underground to stage a week-long sympathy strike for colleagues in the Gaza Strip who were refusing to accept new Israeli identity cards.

"The leadership shouldn't make calls that they can't implement," said Khatib, calling the sympathy strike a failure.

Disunity also arose in a public disagreement recently in several West Bank schools where followers of Palestine Liberation Organisation chief Yasser Arafat urged students to attend classes during a general strike and met opposition from leftists who feared it would undermine solidarity.

Black

In the Al Askar refugee camp, about 150 supporters of Arafat's mainstream Fatah faction, wearing black kaffiyeh headresses, engaged in fist-fights over the school issue with some 50 members of Marxist PLO factions wearing red headresses.

Daoud Kuttab, a Palestinian journalist said "lack of discipline" in the uprising also was apparent in a new tendency by Palestinians to break with a publicly proclaimed PLO policy of restraint and launch individual actions, some of them violent.

The underground leadership is "asking people daily to sacrifice their lives, but people are not seeing tangible changes, and their endurance and patience with the leadership becomes thin," Kuttab said.

As a result, he said, there were more "uncontrolled actions" such as the lone Palestinian who, to avenge the beating of a friend by soldiers, forced a bus off a highway July 6, killing 16 Jews and injuring 25 others.

Despite a PLO order not to use weapons, army statistics obtained by the Associated Press show there were 12 incidents of Palestinians using firearms against Israelis and alleged Arab collaborators from July 9 to Aug 9 — than in all of 1988.

Overall, there also appears to be a new hard line developing. At an eight-day conference in Tunisia this month, Arafat's Fatah produced a final communique reaffirming the faction's commitment to armed struggle. The statement contrasted with Arafat's earlier pledges to abandon terrorism and accept Israel.

Arafat also hinted to reporters in Baghdad that more violent actions were under consideration, saying a lack of progress in the US-PLO talks could result in the uprising becoming a "nation-wide rebellion" and we may take another step after the rebellion.

The more militant mood was also evident in the latest leaflet, No. 44, issued by the PLO-backed united national leadership of the uprising. It advocated a greater use of knives in attacks on Israelis.

Leftist

The communique also reflected leftist views in taking an unexpectedly strong position against Palestinians meeting with Israeli officials such as Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Jamir Tarifi, a West Bank lawyer from Ramallah, left for Jordan and skipped a planned conference with visiting US Assistant Secretary of State John Kelly after graffiti threatened his life for earlier meeting with Shamir.

"Shame on Jamir Tarifi and anybody who meets with killers of our people," said one slogan spray-painted on a wall in Ramallah. Assad Saftawi of Gaza city, a Palestinian activist with close personal ties to Arafat, said that despite the warning, he would press ahead with a 10-point peace proposal he recently presented to Rabin.

"I call on my brothers not to be quick in taking decisions before they see the results of such meetings," he said in an interview.

Other signs of internal upheaval include leaflets accusing prominent activists of corruption and a surge of attacks on Palestinians accused of collaborating with Israel.

The attacks, usually carried out at night by masked enforcers, have claimed 97 lives and have been criticized as harming the uprising's non-violent image. Israeli troops have killed 540 Palestinians since the intifada began Dec 8, 1987.

Rev. Auden Rantisi, an Episcopal clergyman and former deputy mayor of Ramallah, said: "It's not right to take the life of anyone" and that some killings may mask "personal rivalries." (Occupied Jerusalem — AP)

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 79 — Mount Vesuvius erupts and buries Italian cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum.
- 1654 — French, under Prince of Conde, raise siege of Arras, Belgium.
- 1896 — Russia invites major world powers to co-operate in reducing armaments.
- 1921 — Turks, in battle of the Sakarya, prevent Greek forces from reaching Ankara.
- 1922 — Arab congress at Nablus rejects British mandate for Palestine.
- 1939 — Nazi Germany and Soviet Union sign 10-year Non-Aggression Pact.
- 1953 — Kenya government calls on Mau Mau to surrender.
- 1964 — Fireworks explosion in Alahuaca, Mexico, during religious celebration kills 45 people and injures 33.
- 1965 — United Arab Republic and Yemen sign ceasefire agreement.
- 1967 — Mobs from China repeatedly attack British positions along 17-mile (27 kilometre) Hong Kong border and are driven off with tear-gas.
- 1968 — France explodes hydrogen bomb at South Pacific testing ground and becomes world's fifth thermo-nuclear power.
- 1969 — Iraq executes 15 people on charge of spying for United States and Israel.
- 1976 — Two Soviet cosmonauts return to Earth after 48 days in orbit around Earth in space laboratory.
- 1986 — Pakistani government threatens "drastic action" unless opposition groups end drive to oust President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq.
- 1987 — Arab League urges Iran to abide by a United Nations resolution calling for a cease fire in its war with Iraq.
- 1988 — Death toll of recent earthquake in Nepal and India stands at 749.

Economic crisis overshadows political problems

Kabulis starve on caviar

SIX months after the last Soviet soldier left Afghanistan, shops in the capital still have plenty of Russian vodka and caviar for sale. But they cost a bit more than they used to.

Such luxuries, however, are far beyond the means of the average citizens of Kabul unless they work for the government or security forces.

Afghanistan's flat unleavened bread, or "nan", is the staple food and many poor Kabulis survive on a diet of nan and sweetened tea three times a day.

"The money we get is not enough to feed our families let alone anything else," said a Kabul University lecturer.

A senior teacher at Afghanistan's top educational institute earns only 5,000 afghanis a month. At 360 afghanis to the dollar on the officially condoned black market, that is \$13 a month.

Worth

At the beginning of the year, the dollar was worth 200 afghanis in the money bazaar, which acts as a barometer of how the 10-year-old civil war and rampant inflation are affecting popular sentiment.

In Kabul's closed society, where political power is vested in the secretive People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), rumours of coup attempts or intrigue at the top regularly sweep the city.

But after the fear of being blown to pieces in a rebel rocket barrage, the average Kabul's main concern in getting enough to feed an extended family of 10 or 15 people.

Last winter, when anti-government commandos tried to starve Kabul into submission by blocking food supplies, prices soared and 30 Kabul University lecturers out of 600 fled the country.

Although the university has traditionally opposed the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah, one lecturer said it was probable that most had left for Pakistan and the West more for economic than political reasons.

Speaking frankly only when they knew they were out of earshot of PDPA members on the faculty, he and two others said they were planning to leave too as soon as they got the chance.

Prices came down from their winter peaks but remain twice as high as in May last year, according to a United Nations survey. The efforts of rebel mujahideen during the past two months to block roads used by traders to truck in goods from Pakistan have begun to push up the cost of food once more.

The academics' view of the mujahideen was only a little less jaundiced than their opinion of the Najibullah government.

"The opinion of the people has changed. They were strongly supporting the mujahideen, but these days their ideas have changed because they see that the mujahideen are just looking for power," one of the other lecturers said.

The shift in support stemmed mostly from the rebel rocket attacks that have increasingly battered Kabul in recent weeks, they added.

Intense

The city has seen more intense barrages in the past, but the latest attacks, launched from the rugged mountains that surround Kabul, have been targeted on central areas and have caused heavy casualties.

The city's leading hotel, the Continental, took



An Afghan woman examines a handful of rice in the Kabul grain market.

direct hits this month for the first time in the civil war. Nobody was hurt.

International aid workers, some of whom had returned to Kabul after being withdrawn ahead of the final Soviet pullout, acknowledge the rockets have given them the jitters.

"There is no doubt that a lot of people are worried," a UN official said.

All the ground-floor offices of the UN agencies have walls of sandbags outside the windows to cushion rocket blasts and freight containers are buried in the grounds as shelters.

Even during lulls in the rocketing, the signs of war are all around. Troops and armoured cars patrol the city, making snap vehicle checks and strictly enforcing the night curfew from 10 pm to 4 am.

Giant Soviet transport planes bringing arms supplies for the government spit out magnesium flares to decoy rebel heat-seeking missiles as they spiral in and out of Kabul airport.

And government forces bombard the mountains around the city with barrages of missiles fired from multiple-rocket launchers, while helicopter gunships crisscross the city on sorties. (Kabul — Reuters)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

History lesson

SIR: Referring to "The letter to the Editor" in Arab Times dated 6th August, '89 by A. Veronica Fernandes regarding Indian hegemony, I am sorry I have to point out his innocence of south Indian history and politics.

I do agree with Fernandes about the Indian hegemony, including invasion of Goa by Indian troops in 1961. This shows his anger towards Indian government for not having attained a separate Goa at that time. Hats off for his patriotism.

I want to clarify some points in his letter, which is contradictory to the south Indian history and politics.

He stated in para 3 of his letter "If Rajiv Gandhi wishes to win over voters in Tamil Nadu" ... I wish to say, in south India, especially Tamil Nadu people sent the Congress to the graveyard in 1967 itself. So, there is no point in "If Rajiv wishes to win" ...

In para 4 of his letter, Fernandes points out that "Tamilis came to Lanka to fill their belly and not ferment war" ... I fully disagree with this point. May be Fernandes must have written this point with his little knowledge of the south Indian history. I can give five evidences that Sri Lanka was ruled by Tamil kings in various stages.

Fernandes must have heard of King Ravana (Elankeswaram) in Ramayana. He was a Tamil king. If he believes Ramayana is a mythology, I can give some evidence from history.

About BC 12th and 13th century, when Tamil kings "Chera, Chola and Pandiya" ruled over Tamil Nadu, there was a Tamil king named "Panduranga Vanian" who ruled over "Elam." (At present Tamils are fighting for the same).

Lanka was divided as north and south, before British imperialism was rooted in India and Lanka, like India, North was ruled by Tamil kings. South was ruled by Sinhalese kings. Then it was united for the British benefits, like India.

At the time when the British empire was rooted in Lanka, the last Tamil king from "Elam" called "Adiverama Pandiyar" was arrested by the British Army and brought to Vellore Fort Jail (in Tamil Nadu) in a cage with a chain like a lion. He was imprisoned till his death. There is archaeological evidence at Vellore Fort till today. I can give more historical proof that Lanka was ruled by Tamils, not migrated, if Arab Times can publish.

So, my friend can understand now I hope, that Tamils never migrated to Lanka "to fill their belly" (in his words). They are sons of the soil and they are fighting and sacrificing their life for their own soil.

P. Vadivelu,
Salmiya.

Fatal puffs

SIR: There is a vast body of literature on the harmful effects of cigarette smoking, especially by women and young persons. The number of lung cancer deaths will exceed that of breast cancer in women. Women do not seem to be aware of this fact. Earlier advertisers made it seem that smoking was mainly, now women take to smoking probably to remove their embarrassment that they are inferior because they are female. Cigarette smoking is an avoidable cause of cancer. Statistics show that the average life expectancy of a 32-year-old who smokes is 73 years compared with a man who never smokes to be 79 years. It has been estimated by actuarial calculations that 30 per cent of cancer deaths are attributed to cigarette smoking.

Nicotine levels in the blood has been found to be similar for cigarette smokers, and users of snuff, despite the different methods of absorption. While

snuff users avoid the hazards of smoke inhalation, they suffer 50-fold increase in cancer of the cheek and gum. The recent shift to low tar and low nicotine filter cigarettes has not affected nicotine addiction because people who smoke low nicotine cigarettes undergo compensatory smoking, inhaling more frequently and more deeply to maintain mood nicotine levels. As such, they are exposed to increased amounts of tar and other toxic carcinogens. Even non-smokers exposed to sidestream smoke, although the smoke is diluted by air prior to being inhaled by a non-smoker it contains greater amounts of toxic substances than mainstream smoke because of a lower combustion temperature and a lack of filtration through the cigarette.

Radiation is a more probable cause because definite increases in cancer in children exposed to low dose X-rays have been conclusively shown by many studies. Breast cancer is on the increase, attributed to contraceptive oestrogens. There was no breast cancer before the advent of oestrogens. Has exposure to radiation from atomic fallout, Chernobyl and other reactor disasters, and radiation storms from outer space changed our genes over several generations increasing the mutation rates?

Viruses existed from the beginning of life, why cancers only now? Bacteria, viruses all existed from time immemorial. All these forms of life co-exist. Cancer is genetic in origin; in bacteria, in house flies. Some survive when subjected to toxic doses of penicillin, or D.D.T. while others die. They are genetically capable of withstanding such hazards; some are disease-prone while others are not prone to the same extent. Those who are capable of withstanding cancer are those capable of fighting cancer with the most potent production of interferons, antibodies and other cellular humoral immune defences; this is a built-in system.

That explains why all smokers don't get cancer and some non-smokers do get cancer. Besides, even your fireplace smoke, woodfire, also contains carcinogens; there are carcinogens in smog, from car exhaust; there are more than 500 carcinogens used in common use, yet not everyone dies of cancer. Carcinogens, viruses, pollution, are not the cause of cancer, though they may aggravate it; cancer is more fundamental. Genetic research may reveal more about it.

John McKenzie.

Philippine govt reply

SIR: In the August 8, 1989 issue of the Arab Times, there appeared a news item entitled "OIC criticises Aquino Mindanao autonomy issue." Below is the reaction of the Philippine government to the said news item. In the interest of a balanced and fair presentation of issues, publication of the same in your newspaper will be appreciated.

"Since the restoration of constitutional democratic institutions and processes in 1986, the Philippine government has undertaken to fulfil its national and international commitments in accordance with the 1987 constitution of the Republic of the Philippines which was approved through a referendum by an overwhelming majority of the Filipino people including those living in Muslim Mindanao. Since then the Filipino nation, including the Muslims, have freely elected their senators, congressmen and governors as their legitimate representatives. It is not only presumptuous but undemocratic for persons who have not been mandated by the people in democratic elections to claim, and arrogate unto themselves the right to represent the Filipino Muslims.

The Organic Act for the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao was first drafted by the Regional Consultative Council then redrafted and thoroughly discussed by all Muslim Congressmen and Senators before it was promulgated into law. In other words, this law on autonomy embodies not only the direct recommendations of the people of Mindanao through the RCC, the Senate and Congress but incorporates the letter and spirit of the Tripoli Agreement.

Before criticising the Philippine government, this Organic Act should first be read carefully. The critics will soon realize that it is more than the Tripoli Agreement. More than that it implements the Tripoli Agreement because the first paragraph and paragraph 16 of the said agreement provides that the autonomy for Muslims in southern Philippines shall be established within the framework of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, national unity and constitutional processes of the Republic of the Philippines.

In the interest of fairness and justice, the Philippine government hopes that everyone should first read the Organic Act. Majority of the Muslim Filipinos living in the Philippines, including former MNLF guerrillas support the Organic Act and President Corason C. Aquino."

Florentino R. Ocampo,
Officer-in-charge,
Philippine Embassy,
Kuwait.

America's squandermania

SIR: Buoyed by his exhilarating experience from his Polish and Hungarian tours, President George Bush lavishes out the poor American taxpayer's money like Santa Claus. His buoyancy at its zenith, and egged on by American space men, he now makes "loony" proposals to put men on the moon and Mars.

Every American president has to pander to his generals and the arms-and-space industry. President Kennedy had the famous man on the moon programme, Ronald Reagan, Star Wars, and now the legendary hero of World War II, Bush, the proposed to go back to the moon and follow that up with a trip to Mars.

\$500 million were squandered on the Apollo mission which did not elicit any new information about the origin of the universe. It may have created a new theory which is but a hybrid of the two previous theories made on terra firma, and at best is just a theory! The Apollo mission was perhaps a bold dream — but a mere dream. There are bolder dreams regarding man on Earth — a bold new life — a new frontier in medicine and survival.

John and Jill McKenzie,
Colorado, USA.

Voyager 2

SIR: American space probe Voyager 2 launched twelve years ago is expected to rendezvous with Neptune, the farthest planet in our solar system, getting as close as 3000 miles on Thursday. She will then streak past the planet's biggest moon, Triton, before exiting into the seamless outer space for an eternal odyssey.

As it is a scientific triumph of the century and a unique event of utmost interest to the astrophysicists as well as the public at large, it is understood that NASA will be telecasting the event live.

Kuwait TV would be doing a great service to its viewers by relaying this historic event live, if that is technically feasible.

C.K. Saiyara,
Safat.

Art Buchwald
Bombs away

THE Stealth bomber, the top secret weapon in America's arsenal, is having a few problems. For one thing, Congress is very upset at the cost of the plane. But while the Stealth has its critics, it also has its defenders.

One of them is Waldo Capistrano, a defense contractor, who told me, "No matter what it costs, it is still worth it to have a plane that fly undetected and split Russian real estate."

"How much does it cost?" I asked. "That's even a bigger secret than how it flies. We designed the Stealth bomber so no one would ever find out what the price would be. The Soviets would give their eyeteeth to know how much a Stealth plane costs," he said.

"So would Americans. The word on the street is that each plane will price out at more than \$600 million."

"If I confirmed that, then we could no longer call it a Stealth. The idea of this plane is that no one can see it, hear it or figure out what the price tag is. Six hundred million dollars is not a lot of money for an airplane, when you consider what a Picasso is selling for these days."

"But you can see a Picasso," I said. "There's too much talk about money when it comes to a plane like the Stealth. The question we should ask ourselves is: Can it blow the Soviet Union to hell and gone and get back home? We believe it can."

"How do you know if you can't see it?" I asked.

"Because the Stealth bomber is built by a Stealth contractor and you have to take his word for it. There have been glitches in the bomber, but not any more than in any plane that is invisible from the ground."

"How many Stealth bombers do you believe the US needs?" I asked.

"As many as we can build. The more we have, the larger deterrent against you know-who."

"That's a lot of day-care centers. Since the Soviets can't see the Stealth, why don't we just announce we have built 400 and spend the money on something else? How would the Russians know?"

Capistrano said, "That would be cheating. When it comes to disarmament, it's not nice to cheat the Russians. The truth is that this country needs the Stealth more than it needs oat bran. Let's say, for argument's sake, and I'm not saying this, that the Stealth has an eventual price tag of a billion dollars apiece. Who is going to get hurt?"

"Will that include all the weapons and electronics?" I asked.

"Who said it would have any weapons on it? I can't tell you what is on it because if I did I would be violating top security. As far as we're concerned, the only electronics on the plane will be in-flight movies."

"I saw the Stealth bomber on television the other night. Was it the real thing, or was it a mock-up to convince the public that you had actually built one?"

Capistrano said, "It's hard to say. My TV has been on the fritz for a week. I can't seem to find anyone seem to find anyone to fix it."

"Can we assume that you will be going ahead with building the Stealth bomber?"

"We have to or our credibility will be questioned. Someday Americans will look up and see the skies filled with Stealth planes, and they'll thank heaven they had insisted on their production."

"If they're Stealth bombers, how will we know they're flying over us?"

"They'll all have red sale tags hanging from their noses."

Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Quote me

"It's been a dream my whole life to play in the NBA. But over these last two weeks, like a king that a basketball player, the beautiful blue water, everything Mavericks White after signing a contract with the club."

"The education deficit continues to grow. This month, \$1.5 billion remain left for a clean water supply. US Education Secretary Lamar C. Casper said that \$353 billion spending on US education planned for 1990."

"He was very well-dressed, very well-educated. I was him to come to the cockpit, but he never wanted to come. He never moved." — Air France's captain, Joseph Kelly, said about the hijacker who hijacked a flight from Paris to Algiers.

"Food and drink is OK in East Germany, housing is poor, and there's no money. There's nothing you can do about it. You must always ask if you say. Then they say 'yes' or 'no'. But you are never told why it's not." — One of East German refugees said in Austria.

"There is no opposition in the world which at the same time has the Army and security services and remains completely loyal. One cannot today form a government in Poland without a broad coalition having the support of all forces sitting at the table." — Prime Minister-designate Tadeusz Mazowiecki said.

"They did a good job with the pick and roll in the first half. We scored a lot of points against them but we didn't stop them well." — Gene Raddy, head US coach said after a win against Brazil in World University Games basketball match.

"I think it is a matter of time before greedy doctors, middle-men and hospitals begin to resort to obtaining organs for high profits using illegal means and will take as the case in drug trafficking." — George Abouma, Kuwait University's Organ Transplant Unit chairman said in a health conference in Canada.

Child's eye-view of first fateful days

Bombs drop on Poland

By Bogdan Turek

IT was Sept 1, a warm, sunny day, when the first German planes appeared over Warsaw and dropped their bombs. One of them smashed through our tiny house near the airfield.

Fortunately, the radio had warned the planes were coming and my mother and I had already gone to hide in the basement of a bigger house. Dad was a soldier on duty in the capital. I didn't know then that I wouldn't see him again for two years.

Clouds of smoke hovered over our neighbourhood and panic broke out because the people thought they had been gassed.

Mother put a big piece of cotton over my nose. I didn't know why, but I remember other people were shouting they couldn't breathe because of the smell.

I was 3 years old at the time. Half a century later, war scenes still haunt me, as indelible and clear as if they had happened a moment ago. Yet everything was so cruel it seems to have been unreal.

The civilian death toll was heavy on the first day of the war. Among those killed was my father's brother, who was serving as a soldier at a military transport base near the capital when the planes attacked.

My own family became homeless and, like millions of other Poles, we lost all our property.

We moved to my grandmother's apartment a few miles away. During a quiet day, my grandfather and I walked to our demolished house to see what we could salvage from the debris.

He found only an axe and a

kettle.

As a child I didn't care about the levelled house. I also missed my fur coat, which had burned together with all our other clothes.

I also missed my father, whom I later learned had been forced to retreat with his unit to Hungary, where he was interned in a POW camp.

The air raids continued almost every day. The planes dived from the sky and dropped their bombs, which produced a terrible whistling sound that warned us to dive to the ground before they exploded.

My grandmother's apartment house would tremble and old women would kneel on the steps with rosaries and pray that it wouldn't be hit.

We children were ordered to stay in a darkened basement during the raids. We knew something was going on, but we couldn't understand that at any minute we might find ourselves under tons of bricks.

I couldn't stand it. To the despair of my mother, several times I escaped from the basement to the yard, which was strewn with shards of glass from broken windows, yelling, "I want to go to war to see my father."

Split

Nearby, a solid, four-storey house was split in half by the bombs. It was the only house in the neighbourhood that still had running water.

With our food and our source of water, we began to hear rumours that the situation was better in other sections of the city across the Vistula river.

A group of us made the jour-

ney. The grown-ups carried blankets. I remember one lady had a huge eiderdown quilt on her back.

Not far from the bridge, a machine-gun opened fire on us. "Fall down," shouted a Polish soldier who saw us, and we collapsed behind a 3-foot-high brick wall.

My mother pressed me to the ground, but I got bored after a few minutes. I kept asking if I could get up, and everyone in the group shouted at me to stay put and be quiet.

I learned much later we had come under fire from a group of Germans who had been living in Warsaw acting as Hitler's "fifth column" before the German Army took the city.

As a child I did not feel any danger. I didn't understand why I couldn't have cakes anymore, nor why after we drank ersatz coffee made of grain, we would then eat the grounds.

By the time German troops finally entered the city four weeks later, I was very hungry. I saw the troops handing out loaves of bread to the residents. I could smell the freshness and I wanted to go and grab one. Mommy held me back.

Later she told me there were German cameras taking pictures for propaganda.

Two years into the war, I still had a simple, child's vision of the world.

One part of it was me, my parents and other Poles, who lived in constant fear. The other part was the Germans. I didn't think of them then as a nationality—I thought they were some sort of people who beat up and

shot at people like me.

My grandfather, a locomotive engineer who played the violin and kept larks in cages, was one of their victims. I loved him because he would do anything for me.

He was a short man, with a long moustache. I loved to tug on the tips. Tears would trickle down his cheeks but he never said anything.

One evening, a German patrol caught him at our front gate five minutes after curfew began and beat him abruptly. He died of kidney trouble a few days later.

When I was 5, we went to live in a village 25 miles (40 km) west of the capital. We were strangers there, and when the Germans demanded that residents produce some candidates for the labour camps, the local farmers gave our names.

The sheriff arrived and gave us our deportation papers. We escaped that night to the nearby city of Zyrardow.

A few months later, we had another narrow escape.

My mother and I were picking potatoes when we saw German soldiers coming through the field rounding up people. We hid among the plants. Some of the soldiers passed within 6 yards (m) of us but did not see us.

Others in the field were not so lucky. They were forced to join a large group at a nearby Jewish cemetery on a small hill, where they all were executed.

For the first time in my life I felt death was close. I never prayed so much and so sincerely, lying there in the dirt with my face wet with tears. (UPI)



An aerial view of Warsaw, war devastated capital of Poland

Britain declares war on Germany

Countdown to outbreak of WWII

By John Biliotta

IT is the last weeks of August 1939 and posters in the British capital show a soldier in combat gear talking to a young boy. "You leave this to me, sonny," the caption says. "You should be out of London."

News bulletins carry reports of continuing mobilization in Poland, France, Britain and Germany. The countdown is on to the outbreak of Second World War. Sunday, Sept 3, 1939, the German attack on Poland is in its third day. The Germans have penetrated the Polish defences and cut off communication.

Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain tells the nation in a radio address what many people knew was inevitable: Britain is treaty-bound to come to Poland's aid at once.

"I am speaking to you from the cabinet room at 10 Downing Street," Chamberlain said. "This morning the British ambassador in Berlin handed the German government a final note stating that, unless we heard from them by 11 o'clock

that they were prepared at once to withdraw their troops from Poland, a state of war would exist between us.

"I have to tell you now that no such undertaking has been received, and that consequently this country is at war with Germany."

Two months earlier, Britons were reading a travel advertisement that said, "Seeing is believing. Come and see Germany," writes Stephen Howarth in "August '39": the last four weeks of peace in Europe.

"From Schleswig to Carinthia, Silesia to the Rhine, great arterial roads supplement the railways," the advertisement said. "Above all, a German holiday is good, simple fun."

The ad did not mention that until the 1938 "union" with Germany, Carinthia had been a part of independent Austria.

The Daily Express had told its readers in mid-August there were only two possibilities for peace for Britain: either Hitler would not invade Poland, or, if he did, Britain could refuse to come to its aid.

"We are used to storm clouds and

threatening weather in the autumn, and seeing the sky overcast and gloomy. The storm has not broken yet. The Daily Express believes that Hitler will keep the peace this year."

Avoided

Many Britons thought war had been avoided after the Munich crisis of September 1938. Germany and Britain then had seemed to be on the very edge of war after Hitler announced his intention to use force to take a portion of Czechoslovakia.

Chamberlain returned from Munich a hero, promising "peace in our time." Rather than let Czechoslovakia be invaded, which would have required Britain and France to come to its defense, the territory Hitler wanted was given to him in hopes that further aggression could be avoided.

But in March 1939, Hitler had used the threat of overwhelming forces to dismember the remnants of independent Czechoslovakia. Gradually Hitler's target became clear—the Polish corridor—linking landlocked Poland to the Baltic must



Neville Chamberlain, holding the Anglo-German agreement which he signed with Hitler in Munich in 1938

be incorporated into the Reich. August 1939 became a month of hectic diplomatic activity. Nazi Germany tried to isolate Poland, divide France and Britain and, hoping to avoid a double-fronted war, secretly negotiated an alliance with communist Russia. At the same time, determined to protect Poland, Britain and France were wooing Russia.

Throughout August in the streets of Britain's cities, at railway stations, in hospitals and schools, even at Buckingham Palace, preparations for war were under way.

On Aug 8, a mock invasion of Britain was staged by 1,300 Royal Air Force planes. The next day King George VI inspected the reserve naval fleet in Weymouth Bay.

On Aug 12, a test blackout was held in 28 counties and in London. Trains with blinds drawn ran into darkened stations. Street lights were turned off. Traffic lights showed only tiny crosses of colour.

Londoners not quite sure what was to happen saw workmen in Hyde Park digging trenches and volunteers in South Kensington filling sandbags.

In mid-August reserve soldiers began manoeuvres.

On the last day of August 1939, Howarth writes, journalists Derek Silver noted in his diary, "All seems much calmer on the diplomatic front... so, calmly to bed to write this."

Barely six hours later, Germany invaded Poland.

As the news bulletins poured in Britain began evacuating children from its cities.

Berlin on Sept 1, 1939

AT dawn on Sept 1, 1939—50 years ago Adolf Hitler hurled his troops and Luftwaffe planes against Poland and plunged mankind into World War II. On that fateful day, Joseph W. Grigg was a staff correspondent in the Berlin Bureau of this news agency. The following excerpts are from reminiscences that Grigg, now retired, wrote in later years about the events he witnessed.

By Joseph W. Grigg

AT 5:45 on the morning of Friday, Sept 1, 1939—50 years ago—the "Hellschreiber" printer of the official Nazi German news agency DNB began grinding out a communiqué.

"Proclamation to the German Armed Forces..." it began.

Over the streets of Berlin, a gray, rainy dawn was breaking. The few early workers hurrying along the broad, empty expanse of Unter den Linden saw the street lamps go out.

They would not be lit again for six blood-soaked years.

In the great mausoleum-like Reich Chancellery he himself had built, the Nazi Fuehrer Adolf Hitler signed the proclamation and went to sleep in his small cell-like bedroom.

"The Polish state has refused the peaceful settlement of our relations as neighbours, for which I have striven, and instead has appealed to arms," the proclamation read. "There remains no other means of ending this madness but from now on to meet force with force."

There were few cheers, but many long faces in Berlin. It was almost as if Berliners sensed what was in store for them—total destruction of their city and the most overwhelming defeat ever suffered by a major nation.

For weeks Europe had hurtled toward the brink of war as Hitler pushed a "hate" campaign against Poland to a hysterical climax.

Berlin railroad stations were jammed with Wehrmacht reservists reporting to their units. Fleets of Heinkel and Dornier bombers roared over the city to impress the population. Anti-aircraft guns were mounted on the rooftops. Food, clothes, shoes and

soap were rationed. Telephone lines with London and Paris were cut.

Britain and France were pledged to come to Poland's aid if she were attacked. But Hitler was convinced they would not fight. He expected another Western climbdown like the Munich agreement over Czechoslovakia a year earlier.

At 5:45 am Friday Sept 1 Hitler struck. He flung 1 million troops and two entire bomber fleets without warning against Poland.

As I raced by taxi to the United Press office on Unter den Linden... I saw early workers glumly reading the newspapers proclaiming in screaming red headlines, "From now it's force against force."

Pot-Bellied

Middle-aged, pot-bellied Nazi storm troopers were taking up positions along with Wilhelmstrasse leading from Hitler's Chancellery. Crowds began massing silently behind them.

Just before 10 am Hitler appeared, driving in a closed Mercedes Sedan surrounded by bodyguards and followed by two other cars filled with storm-troop guards. One car carried a small anti-aircraft gun.

Hitler looked haggard and pale. His face was drawn from lack of sleep. For the first time he wore a field gray uniform in place of his usual brown Nazi Party tunic.

The Nazi leader drove to the Kroll opera house. There, a dwarf-like figure beneath the Wagnerian backdrop of a huge golden eagle surmounting a golden swastika, he faced the tame Nazi Reichstag (legislative assembly).

Gesturing and pounding the desk, he screamed, "I will wage this struggle, no matter against whom, until the security of the Reich and its rights are assured."

His face strained and pallid, Hitler shrieked, "Since last night Poland has used regular troops to fire on our territory. Since 5:45 am we have been firing back."

That was a lie. The Polish Army never had fired against the Germans.

That night Berlin was blacked out for the first time.

For two days Britain and France hesitated, though pledged to come to Poland's aid. (UPI)

Controversy over statue

Deserters: heroes or cowards?

MODERN Germans seldom pass up an opportunity to condemn the atrocities of Adolf Hitler's Nazi regime. But many feel a scheme to mark the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II with a monument to deserters from the Fuehrer's army is going a little too far.

"After all, they were cowards, some even criminals," pointed out military historian Manfred Messerschmidt. That is a common reaction to the plan for a memorial proposed by a coalition of Christian, peace and political groups.

But that won't wash with men like Ludwig Gehm, whose voice trembles with emotion when he recalls crossing over to the Greek partisan lines with 15 other German soldiers in 1943.

"Cowardice indeed," snorted Gehm, who received four death sentences in absentia for his action. "When we walked over we did not know what to expect, we had no idea where we would go, we did not know how the other side would receive us."

"It took a lot of courage to walk over. Our commander said that if anyone deserted he would shoot every 10th man in the unit, as he had done previously in Africa," said Gehm.

Gehm was one of an estimated 200,000 German soldiers who deserted during World War II. Several of his friends were among the 50,000 deserters killed—shot while escaping or executed by Hitler's infamous death squads.

Officially, they are recognized neither as heroes nor cowards. They remain just another statistic in the annals of World War II. Unlike the senior officers who tried unsuccessfully to assassinate Hitler, they are not praised in the numerous speeches recalling the horrors of the war.

That could change Sept 1—the 50th anniversary of the invasion of Poland which brought Britain and France into the war—when a group calling itself the

Bonn Peace plenary hopes to erect a memorial to "the unknown deserter" during a rally in Bonn's "Freedom Square, formerly known as 'Adolf Hitler Square'."

The coalition, supported by German opposition parties, has already purchased the \$25,000 statue from Mehmet Aksoy, a Turkish artist living in Berlin, and is seeking permission for its display from civic authorities.

So far officials have angrily rejected requests to mount the 10-ton statue, a 6-foot 6-inch (2-m) slab of black marble with the shape of a German soldier carved out in it.

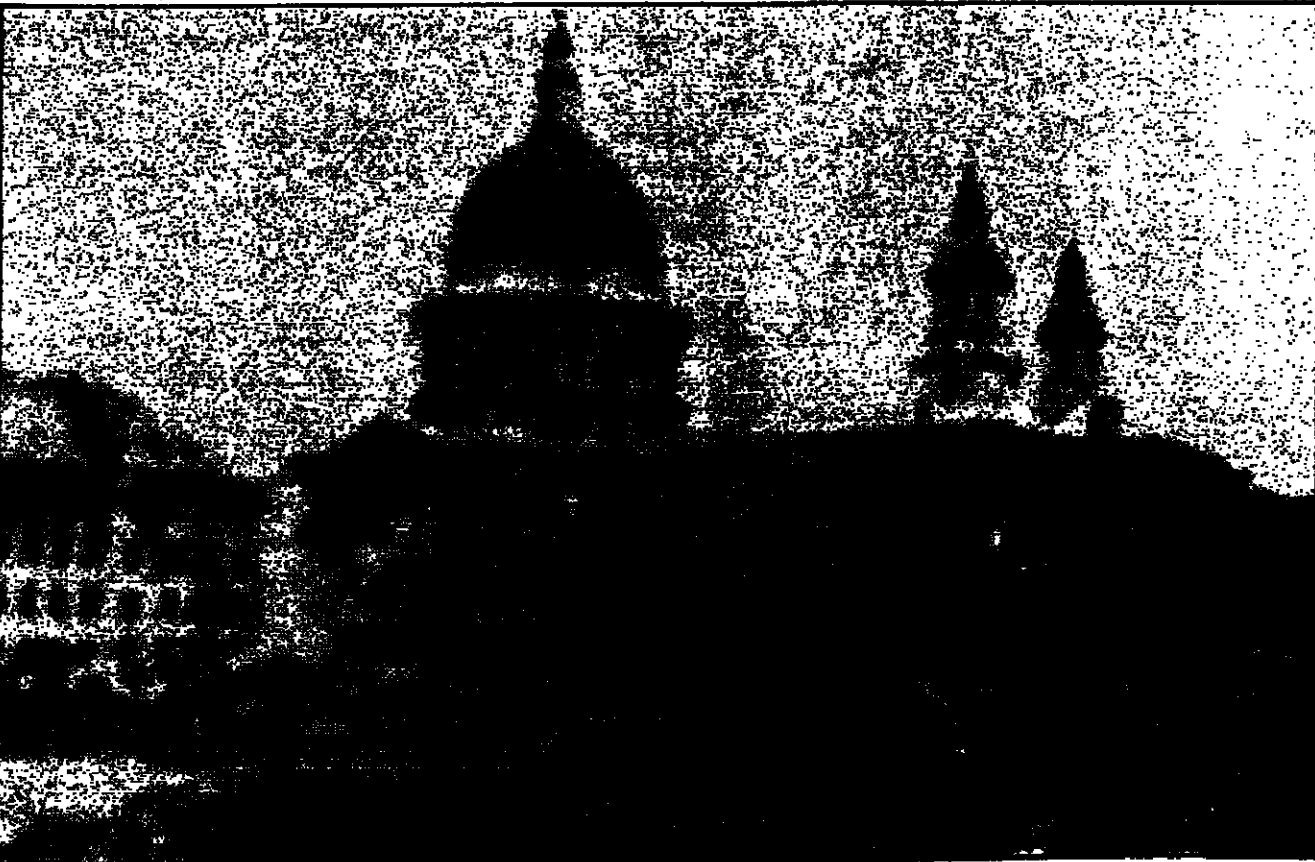
Bonn's Conservative mayor, Hans Daniels, believes the monument would make a mockery of "those who fought as soldiers in wars of the past in the belief they were serving their fatherland."

And the governing Christian Democratic Union said the statue would discriminate "against the men and women of the resistance against Hitler as well as the soldiers of the world wars who carried out their duty without the level of information we may have today."

But Main Stenner, a spokesman for the group, said the coalition would go to court if necessary to pursue its plan.

"I expect police will not authorize this, in which case we will seek a court order to allow the monument to be erected at least for one day," he said. For the longer term, he acknowledged, they will probably have to seek "asylum" elsewhere for the statue.

"A number of Social Democrat-governed states have expressed sympathy," he said, noting that the mayor of Bremen—a member of the opposition Social Democratic party—has supported the project and contributed toward the acquisition of the statue. (UPI)



St. Paul's Cathedral, London: bombed by the Germans.

Britons reliving war with reverence

By Marcus Ellason

COUPLES foxtrot on the hangar floor to the strains of big-band 1940s hits and a woman in a World War II uniform chaus with a man in a helmet festooned with camouflage foliage.

On the tarmac, the moon casts a ghostly glow over a wartime bomber, and all that is missing is a shot of "scramble."

But there is no stampede to battle stations this hot summer night. This is 1989, and the time-capsule scene unfolding at this central England airfield is an exercise in nostalgia for a war that began 50 years ago.

Duxford is a war-museum, and the dance is to raise money for restoring a wartime Blenheim bomber. The guests have come in 1940s clothes, paying £15

(\$24) each to eat "rations" and dance to golden oldies played by the RAF Squadronaires.

A few wear German Army uniforms with swastika armbands, explaining that the costume rental shop was out of British and American uniforms. No one seems to mind.

Surprisingly, many of the guests are in their 20s, born long after the war. But they are enthusiasts all the same, hankering for what Sir Winston Churchill called "their finest hour," when the British stood alone against Adolf Hitler.

"I think Britain was a nicer place then. People were more united," said Adam Dzielowski, a 24-year-old from Cambridge wearing a wartime flying jacket.

John Rae, former headmaster of exclusive Westminster School in London,

said: "It's a feeling that in peacetime it never is the same, that we're all moaning at each other, railwaymen on strike, political strife... it's harder for young people to get a sense of purpose in peacetime."

With the approach of the 50th anniversary of the Sept 1, 1939, outbreak of the war, some schools went to remarkable lengths to make children aware of the war.

Ton Pentre Junior School in Wales recently recreated the war years by having students carry gas masks for a week, spend a night in a mock air raid shelter, and eat only the foodstuffs that were rationed in the war.

"I think it's good for children to realize that they couldn't just go into a sweetshop and spend money on sweets, because there weren't any, said head teacher Mair Williams.

The Imperial War Museum in London has just opened, "The Blitz" experience, a dank air raid shelter in which visitors hear sirens and shell explosions shake the floor. Screams ring out, children whimper, and simulated smoke wafts down a meticulously recreated bombed-out street.

It isn't fun, nor meant to be.

"I think there is a certain nostalgia for the war, a certain mythology about certain aspects, the Blitz being one," said museum director Alan Borg. "It wasn't fun, and one of the aims of our 'experience' is to show that it must have been a terrifying thing to live through."

Britain was never occupied, and therefore was spared the guilt that haunts the European countries whose citizens had to choose between resistance and collaboration. (AP, Duxford)

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

Kapilku contest

AUGUST 25: Kapilku will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Salmiya. This coincides with Aray ng Mga Bata (Children's Day). For details contact Jojo Medrano, AVP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosafe Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 483447.

Flassik's voice of the 90's

AUGUST 25, (Friday): A final rehearsal and the last chance for an audition for those interested in joining Flassik's "Voice of the 90's" contest which will be held at the Far East Restaurant, Fahd Al Salem Street at 5:00 pm. All those who participated in previous auditions are requested to attend the rehearsal during the said date. Additional contestants may still be accepted by the Flassik board.

Flassik president Grace Fe Govarrubias announced that all contestants during the said musical event will be given tokens for their wholehearted support of this endeavour. Trophies and other valuable prizes have been donated by generous sponsors.

For additional details, kindly contact the event chairperson: Chary, tel. 5624509, vice-chairperson Al Castro tel. 3903274, Marilyn Inductivo, tel. 3940600 ext. 4521 or 2230, Rose Formantes, tel. 4843601, Marilou Tadena, tel. 4881358 or Esther Madamba at Tel. 5312700 ext. 4221 or 2445.

Contest date is on Friday, Sept. 1, at 4:30 pm at the Meridien Hotel. Tickets cost KD3 with snacks and a promise of a musical and very entertaining evening.

People's Art Circle

A MEETING was held at Dr Riaz A. Mahesar's president Pakistan People's Club, residence to form a committee to organise musical shows and dramas. As per Rafiq A. Mirza, general secretary Pakistan Peoples Club, People's Art Circle is formed and is headed by Yakub Pasha with the following committee members, Salman Shah, Ustian Manzoor-ul-Hassan, Samie Sani, Syed Zafar, Mohd Musa Blouch, Qamar Pervaz and Agha Saeed.

Kalpak exhibition

SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316737/5626620.

Filicheck chess

SEPT 26: The Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filicheck) invites all Filipino Chess enthusiasts to join the first "Active Chess Tournament".

Attractive prizes await the lucky winners. Entry forms are available at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sept 15. For more details contact Edward Racaza (2421868, 2402405), Chito (2443961) or Jun (2409650).

Breeze '89

OCT 26: Timiv Centre's — Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casmir, or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

British Council

THE British Council presents "Briefing on Britain" a special video presentation for students who are going to Britain this autumn for higher education. Will this be your first experience of studying in Britain? If so, and if you would like to participate in complimentary briefing sessions please telephone us to find out more details. Contact Kate Harries, Education Adviser, Tel. 2515512/253 3204/253 3227.

Fiesta Filipiniana

UNDER the auspices of the Philippine embassy here in Kuwait, the Filipino Cultural Club, under the competent leadership of Buddy Patungan, proudly announces to its clamouring fans the comeback of "Fiesta Filipiniana '89" with the original cast at its original venue — where else, but at the spacious elegantly lit Al Jahra Ballroom of the Meridien Hotel. Play day is set on Friday

Sept 8, 1989, 4 to 7 pm.

For more particulars and ticket reservations, contact Florence — 2436121 or 2439451.

Colva Nite

OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ball Room of Ramada Al Salem Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact tel: 2413884/2434776/562914-1/4310913 after 5 pm.

Star Nite

DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dir'a' with Perfect Strangers music. Children entry KD.3/- from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Others KD.4/- with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tel. (res) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

Flassik's contest

FINAL preparations are now under way for the ultimate singing contest in Kuwait held for the Filipino population in this Gulf state.

Flassik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias announced that auditions are held at the Far East Restaurant on Fridays, August 18 and 25 and 11 am and 4 pm and on Sundays August 13, 20 and 27 at 5 pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4 pm, at the Meridien Hotel.

For more particulars, kindly contact the following Flassik officers: Chary Nepomuceno Tel. 5624509, Rose Formantes: 4843601, Malon Tadena: 4881358, Esther Madamba: 5312700 ext 4221, Marilyn Inductivo: 3940600 ext. 2230 & 4521 and other Flassik officers or the event vice-chairman Al Castro of Martin Marietta Data Systems.

D'Assissi Association

OCTOBER 6: Ninth annual Thanksgiving mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral at 8 am followed by a get-together after mass. All D'Assissi ex-students along with their families and friends are invited. For more details contact: 2444379 or 2469811.

Konkani drama

NOVEMBER 2, 3: The new GOA presents M. Boyer's "Chintnam Zallim Sopnam" at the IAC (Funaites). Cast includes the Charlie Chaplin of Goa 'Jacinto Vaz' along with Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho, Betty Naz and others. For tickets contact Canary Video (Sharq) or Video Club (near GPO).

Italian food festival

EVERY evening upto August 24 at the Ramada's El-Bandar Coffee shop, enjoy our cuisine where you can taste the biggest selection of Italian food such as: Ravioli alla stuffed with Spanish, Canneloni with

Pionas sauce, Tagliatelli with shrimps, and Zuppa Pavese famous soup.

HOTELS

At the SAS hotel

AL GHAEZER: SAS hotel's very own handcrafted show. Available for half day or whole day trip along the Gulf coastline. Food, beverages and fishing tackle provided on board. For booking, call 5657000 ext 416.

AL BOOM: Dine on charcoal grilled foods and finish off with della coffee. Open for dinner daily, lunch every Thursday and Friday and for reservation call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

PEACOCK ROOM: Chinese specialties served in a very cozy atmosphere. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

EEDAM: Wide varieties of delectable home-made goodies, freshly baked items to choose from. Eedam daily specials also available.

CLOCK: Only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait. Serves wide selections of fast food including our very own specialties.

At the Kuwait International

LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

Failaka: Rooftop restaurant overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Friday. Ext. 8012.

Garden Pool: Relax and enjoy our poolside barbeque event every Friday afternoon.

La Patisserie: Offers an extensive selection of pastries, oven fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings.

At the Kuwait Plaza hotel

SPECIAL breakfast: Al-Dallah coffee shop features the breakfast you like most. Full buffet of all kind of delicious dishes to be savoured by you. Eat as much as you can and whatever dish you fancy for only KD.995 only.

Special lunch and dinner: Also at Al Dallah coffee shop the buffet for lunch and dinner full of varieties of continental, oriental and Arabic food with Plaza special touch plus delectable sweets and fruits of the season. All these and more for only KD2.995.

Roman nights: The Italian restaurant in the heart of Kuwait takes you to the heart of Rome. Enjoy our exotic Italian specialties and our wide variety of Italian dishes with the music of our resident duo Stan and Alice.

KTV 1

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran

9.15 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety

9.30 Cartoons

10.00 Magazine d'Actualite

10.10 Asr Al Hob: daily Arabic serial (Part 6)

11.15 Ablat Monera: local serial (Part 1), starring: Khaled Al Nefessi, and Mona Jaber

12.00 Sabah Al Khair News and Variety

12.15 Al Hesen: recreational programme

1.00 News Summary

1.05 The World Today via Satellite

1.30 Sport Billy: cartoon serial

2.00 Variety

2.15 Al Hejra Illa Al Watan: Arabic serial (Part 4)

3.15 Mawqif Wa Khotab: Religious programme

3.35 Al Teneen Al Sagheer: cartoon serial

4.00 Al Herman: local feature (Part 3)

6.30 Night Chemsits, Airlines and Official announcements

7.00 Egypt Information Message

7.30 Monuments in the World: cultural film (Part 3)

8.00 Popular Variety

8.30 Maa Al' Islam: religious programme, prepared and presented by Dr Khaled Al Mathkoor

9.00 News in Arabic

9.45 Ana Wa Inta Wa Baba Fi Al Mishmish: daily Arabic serial

10.45 Al Hob Aydhon Yamoot: Arabic feature film

12.15 Variety

1.15 News Summary

FRIDAY

9.00 Opening and Holy Quran

9.15 Cartoons

10.00 Magazine d'Actualite

10.15 Variety

10.45 Al Abadeeth Al Mawdoos: religious programme, presented by Sheikh Salah Abu Ismael

11.15 Friday Prayer

12.20 Alwan: variety programme, prepared by Mohammed Alfares, presented by Fatma Abdul Wahab

1.00 News Summary

1.05 The World today via Satellite

1.30 Friday Break: Variety programme, prepared and presented by KTV

4.00 Lil Sabr Hodood: local play, starring Ibrahim Al Salal, Mohammed Al Seer, Maryam Al Ghabban

7.30 KTV programme in a week

8.00 Variety

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES



A poster of 'Real Ghostbusters' on KTV2 at 8:10 pm today.

8.15 Cultural Film
8.45 Hadeeth Al Osboor: religious programme
9.00 News in Arabic
10.00 Wrestling
10.45 Kalema: variety programme with guest artist Farooq Al Feshawi
12.00 News Summary
12.05 The World Today via Satellite
12.30 Holy Quran and Closedown.

KTV 2

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
6.10 The Real Ghost Busters: cartoon serial
6.30 Take Heart: educational programme
7.00 Intruders: "The quick



A scene from Miami Vice on KTV2 at 9:15 pm on Friday.

7.30 T and T: "Working It Out." A young woman attempts to join Daker's Club. The latter refuses and she seeks the help of Mr T to convince Daker for accepting her.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Beauty and the Beast
9.30 TV Bloopers and Practical Jokes. A variety of unexpected events and practical jokes occur while actors or actresses are performing their roles.
10.30 Feature film: "Kid Galahad." Starring: Elvis Presley, Lola Albright, Gig Young.
12.00 News in Brief
12.15 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown

FRIDAY

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
6.10 Silver Hawks: cartoon

6.30 Inter Bang. The killer moves to China Town in California while Burno, Giano and Willmer get rid of the Mexican police and follow the killer there to find out the seventh version of the tower.
7.00 Walt Disney: "A Tale of Two Critters." A racoon and a bear reaches the land safely and co-exist together.
8.00 News in English
8.30 Breaking Away: recreational and entertainment activities carried out by the Touristic Enterprises Company (TEC) in various parts of Kuwait.
8.45 Around the World
9.15 Miami Vice: "Missing Hours." A corpse disappears from the morgue suddenly before confirming the cause of death. One of the team members confesses that she signed the releasing paper but refuses to co-operate with them.
10.00 Open All Hours. The grocer's assistant plans to develop his social relations by advertising his interest to have penpals.
10.30 Moonlighting: "I see England. I see France." Maddie is surprised to find a dead man in her office while another one alleges that the deceased was his partner in a lottery.
11.30 News in Brief
11.45 Magazine D'Actualite and Closedown



Romanian embassy in Kuwait held a reception at the Holiday Inn Hotel on Tuesday to celebrate Romania's National Day. Many important personalities attended the function. Picture shows Romanian Ambassador to Kuwait Gheorghe Serbanescu (left) welcoming Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen.

BBC commemorates outbreak of World War II

THE Day War Broke Out, Churchill at War, Enemies Within and Shakespeare's King Henry V are among the programmes being broadcast on BBC World Service in September to mark the 50th anniversary of the start of the Second World War.

In The Day War Broke Out ordinary people from different countries recall their memories of Sunday, September 3, 1939. Martin Gilbert, Churchill's biographer, talks to Michael Diamond in the 10-part series Churchill at War. This presents an account of the years which did so much to shape our modern world, and is a portrait of one of the century's outstanding figures during the period of his greatest achievements.

In Enemies Within the World Service political correspondent, Andrew Whitehead,

looks at two people of different views who opposed the war: Sir Oswald Mosley and Guy Aldred.

Turning to drama: a series of plays with war as their central theme begins with Shakespeare's King Henry V which is being broadcast in two parts and stars David Schofield as Henry. Each part will be preceded by an introductory feature called Fighting for a Gentle Peace.

A different view of the battle of Agincourt can be heard in After Agincourt, a monologue by Peter Mortley with Bob Hoskins as Pistol. Other plays being broadcast in the season are Lillian Hellman's Watch On the Rhine, The Devil's General by Carl Zuckmayer in which T.P. McKenna plays General Haras.



Flassik cares

Other patients visited were those who met with vehicular accidents and sustained multiple injuries resulting from the mishap.

Venerico Lomoso confined for acute renal failure told Flassik president Grace Fe Covarrubias that the non-Filipino nurses in his ward told him not to worry too much since they were sure that Flassik will pay him a visit soon and inquire about his state of health. He was preoccupied about his condition and his responsibilities to his family back home in the Philippines. Flassik's visit allayed some of his fears and as of this moment he is recuperating from his illness.

If you have any free time, join us in any of our welfare activities and share some of the bounties the Almighty has given you. Kindly contact any Flassik officer. Photo shows: Venerico Lomoso with Flassik officers and members of the Hospital Co-ordinating Committee



Mitsubishi prize winner

The draw for the purchasers of Pajero and L300 vehicles from Maseelah Trading Co. during June and July months were held recently. Picture shows Khalid Ghabayon, receiving the keys of the brand new L300 mini bus from Khalid Najib Al Mullid. A new promotion for free vehicle is underway at MTC showrooms for current purchasers.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Watan Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St.
Jawahrat Al Khaleej Bldg.
Al Tharban Pharmacy
Bibi Al Salem Complex,
Property of Kuwait Supply
House, Shop No. 2

Nugra and Hawalli
Al Kuwait Pharmacy
Nugra, Qotayba St.
Property of Naser Al Saqabi
Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Seema Pharmacy
Baghdad St.
Property of Al Roumi

Fahsheel and Almasadi
Adel Pharmacy
Fahsheel, Al Awadhi Bldg.,
Al Dabooz St.

Jleeb Al-Shoaykh
Al Nomran Pharmacy
Opposite to Jleeb inter-
mediate school

Jahra
Al Khaled Pharmacy
Opp to Jahra Co-op.

FRIDAY

Kuwait
Salem Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem St.
near the Sheraton Hotel
Al Ojail Pharmacy
Mubarakia, Palestine St.
Property of Adnan Abdul
Azz

Nugra and Hawalli
Shamsan Pharmacy
Nugra, Ibn Khaldoun St.
Property of Fatma Al Mulla

Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Al Raed Pharmacy
Rumailhiya, Amman St.
Property of Jamal Abdullah

Fahsheel and Almasadi
Al Khaleej Pharmacy
Fahsheel, Mojanuma St.
Abdullah Rabia Bldg.

Farwandiya
Al Hwaila Pharmacy
Al Mustawassaf St.
Property of Al Mallam

Jahra
Al Najah Pharmacy
Fourth Area, Plot No. 48,
Bader Al Somait Company

PRAYERS

Fajr 3.58 am
Zuhr 11.50
Asr 3.25 pm
Maghreb 6.19
Isha 7.40

FRIDAY

Fajr 3.59 am
Friday Prayer 11.50
Asr 3.24 pm
Maghreb 6.18
Isha 7.39

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SAYED ALI SAYED HAMZA AND BROTHERS

Congratulate
the Romanian
people, President,
Ambassador and
employees at the
Romanian Embassy
in Kuwait on the
occasion of their
National Day

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Seminar planned

The changing face of Kuwait industry

By M.C. Bose
Business Editor

A SEMINAR on the "problems of the industrial sector in Kuwait" will be held at the Planning Ministry in the second half of next month. The seminar will discuss a number of important issues relating to local industries and solutions to the main problems facing them.

According to a recent study on industry in Kuwait, the industrial sector, despite its small size and weak capabilities, it has made a good progress during the past several years. The study said that the real contribution of the manufacturing industry to the Gross Domestic Product, GDP, was 3.5 per cent on average in the period from 1974-1986. The contribution of the industry (excluding oil products) to the GDP was 4.4 per cent in 1986 compared to only 2.3 per cent in 1974.

The contribution of the industrial GDP in the non-oil GDP was 12.4 per cent in 1986 compared to 4.5 per cent in 1974. But the study said that the performance of the industrial sector greatly varied during that period. It said that it passed through two main stages, the first during the '70s which was characterised by expansion and flourishing and the second during the '80s characterised with retreat and contraction.

It added that the annual industrial contribution to the GDP in the period from 1974-80, was 6.5 per cent, while this contribution dropped to only 1.3 per cent from 80 to 86. The size of industrial finance (to build new industries or expand existing ones) greatly dropped during the '80s. Licences for industrial projects also greatly dropped during the '80s. The number of such licences dropped from 37 licences in 1981 to 23 in 1984 to only one licence in 1985 and 1986. The financing of private industrial investments, for both new projects and expansion of existing ones, through the Industrial Bank of Kuwait continued to increase during the '70s until it reached its peak during 1980 and 1981 when it reached KD32 million.

After that, it gradually began decreasing till 1984 when it sharply dropped. The industrial loans provided in 1986 was KD11 million, which dropped to KD7 million in 1987 merely to KD1.6 million in 1988.

The Industrial Bank finances

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY TYPE OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, AT CURRENT PRICES, 1986-1988 (KD MILLION)

Kind of Activity	(a) 1986	(a) 1987	(b) 1988
Oil sector			
Crude petroleum and natural gas	1,679.10	2,232.18	2,001.58
Total oil sector	1,679.10	2,232.18	2,001.58
Non-oil sector			
Agriculture and fishing	41.81	49.96	60.22
Other mining and quarrying	0.10	0.09	0.09
Manufacturing (incl. petroleum refining)	595.27	803.51	737.13
Electricity, gas and water	69.76	29.79	42.29
Construction	181.30	147.23	153.12
Wholesale, retail trade, restaurants and hotels	572.55	530.31	523.57
Transport, storage and communication	261.71	257.86	263.57
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	614.77	687.11	712.79
Community, social and personal services	1,182.49	1,219.22	1,198.94
Import duties	59.54	57.28	58.06
Imputed bank service charges	-92.52	-98.25	-95.38
Total non-oil sector*	3,347.26	3,624.53	3,569.82
Gross Domestic Product	5,026.36	5,856.71	5,571.40

(a) Revised
(b) Provisional
* including import duties and imputed bank services charges

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY TYPE OF EXPENDITURE, AT CURRENT PRICES, 1986-1988 (KD MILLION)

Type of Expenditure	(a) 1986	(a) 1987	(b) 1988
General govt. final consumption expenditure	1,450.73	1,377.15	1,382.39
Private final consumption expenditure	2,765.44	3,297.97	3,351.92
Gross fixed capital formation	1,095.82	1,042.00	1,132.09
Increase in stocks	23.37	-10.41	-
Exports of goods and services	2,403.00	2,606.00	2,294.00
Less: Imports of goods and services	2,652.00	2,456.00	2,589.00
Expenditure on gross domestic product	5,026.36	5,856.71	5,571.40

(a) Revised
(b) Provisional

about 50 per cent on the average of the cost of the project.

The individual performance of the various industries followed the same pattern, as the '70s witnessed its expansion while the '80s witnessed their retreat and contraction. This trend applies to all industries. Foodstuff industry achieved a 17.6 per cent annual growth rate between 1974 and 1980 and this dropped to just 5 per cent between 80 to 86. Similarly, the construction materials industry achieved a 14.9 per cent annual contribution rate to the GDP, in the first period while during the '80s, this contribution became negative recording minus 0.2 per cent. This trend applies to all local industries.

As a result of this clear con-

traction in the capacity of the industrial sector, the problems of the industrial sector surfaced during the '80s and witnessed a number of problems. Among the most important problems that appeared is the rise of the idle or inactive capacity as a characteristic feature of the local industries during the '80s.

According to a recent study conducted by a Kuwaiti bank on this problem, and found that the average rate of unemployed production capacity in Kuwaiti industrial establishments was 47 per cent in 1986 and it ranged from 34 per cent in some industries to as much as 90 per cent in others. The unemployed production capacity in foodstuffs industry was 34 per cent, textiles and garments industry 73 per cent,

timber and products industry 64 per cent, chemical industry 52 per cent, construction materials 55 per cent, mineral products industry 68 per cent and other industries 90 per cent.

The study said that as a result of this huge unemployed production capacity, production costs increase leading to reducing the industries competition capacity even in the local market. This resulted in reducing its share in the local market and directly reducing their profits. Another problem, which resulted from the first problem, is the inability of the local industrial establishments to commit to their banking loans.

A great number of them have been irregular in their payments to local banks and some of them

were included in the difficult loans settlement scheme. As a result of all these factors, pessimistic outlook dominates over the local industry.

In an attempt to explain the present situations of the local industry, the study said that it can be mainly attributed to the general recession that hit the local economy in the '80s and also to the downward trend of the local demand. It said that in the beginning of the '80s, Kuwait suffered three major economic shocks. The first was the drop in oil prices resulting in dropping the state revenues and negatively affecting the public expenditure which is the main source to economic activity.

The second shock is the Iraq Iran war, which resulted in a state of uncertainty in the local market, causing a reduction in private investments and the flow of local funds out of the country. The third shock was the Manakha crash, which adversely affected the values of financial and real estate assets, which also adversely affected the financial resources of individuals and subsequently their spendings and investments. These three major shocks interacted with each other to deepen the state of uncertainty and the recession trend in the local market.

An indication to this is a comparative study in the development of the local demand. It said that the gross local demand achieved an annual growth of 16.3 per cent in the period from 74-80, while it dropped at an average annual rate of 1.4 per cent in the period from 80-86. Concerning the real private consumption (estimated at 1984 prices), it increased by 19.3 per cent annually in the period from 74-80, while it decreased by 2.4 per cent annually between 80-86. Similarly, investments dropped by an annual rate of 2 per cent between 80-86.

The construction sector, which represents 50 per cent of the local investments on the average, represents a clear example of this. Its output growth rate was 20.2 per cent between 74-80, while the rate became minus 12.6 per cent annually between 80-86. General consumption also followed the same trend. Between 74-80, its annual growth rate was 8.8 per cent while this rate dropped to 2.9 per cent between 80-86.

Saudi Arabian GDP growth quickens

Economy makes steady progress

JEDDAH, Aug. 23. (OPECNA): The Saudi Arabian economy showed remarkable strength and flexibility during the 1987-88 fiscal year, with the government's "balanced" policies overcoming a number of "sharp negative elements" in international financial markets.

According to Hamad Al Sayyari, governor of the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency (SAMA), the kingdom had "satisfactorily" adjusted to lower oil prices, fluctuating exchange rates and an increase in protectionist measures by industrialised countries.

In a report to King Fahd, outlining the agency's activities, he said despite the negative factors, the Saudi economy had made steady progress with the gross domestic product (GDP) recording a growth rate of 3.2 per cent over the same period.

He stressed that the impact on the economy from fluctuating oil prices had been eased, mainly

due to the diversification measures introduced by the government which had sparked "rapid growth" in agriculture, industry and other non-oil sectors.

Figures showed that the kingdom earned \$27.8 billion in fiscal 1986-87, a 36 per cent increase over the previous year, and was expected to realise 31 billion in fiscal 1988-89, due to a rise in oil prices and improved revenues from other sources.

The kingdom's oil exports rose 14.4 per cent in value during 1986-87 to \$20.4 billion, due mainly to improved oil prices after a continuous decline over previous years. Non-oil exports increased 32 per cent to \$2.8 billion in value, raising the total value of exports 16.2 per cent to \$23.2 billion from 20 billion the previous year.

Al Sayyari said the oil sector's share of GDP had dropped substantially over the years — from around 60 per cent in 1969-70 to

just 25 per cent in 1986-87. The kingdom's manufacturing activities recorded five per cent growth in 1986-87, compared with 1.9 per cent the previous fiscal year, while in the non-oil private sector, agriculture showed the most significant improvement with growth of 16.4 per cent, followed by electricity operations (5.8 per cent) and industry (two per cent).

The industrial sector maintained its rapid progress due to government support and incentives, including the provision of concessional loans and the construction of industrial estates equipped with the latest technology.

Al Sayyari pointed out that the kingdom's "great economic achievement" of the past years had been accompanied by a "remarkable stabilisation" in domestic prices and a rise in investment opportunities, which had ensured a constant flow of private capital.

Toyota buys helicopter

Import promotion drive

NAGOYA, Japan, Aug. 23. (UPI): Japan's top automaker Toyota Motor Corp. said today it has purchased a French-built helicopter and will send a computer chip procurement mission to the United States this week as part of the company's import promotion programme.

The Nagoya-based company said an eight-seat SA365N1 helicopter built by Aerospatiale was the first helicopter imported by the company from Europe.

The 600 million yen (\$4.2 million) aircraft will join a fleet of two US-built Bell helicopters in bolstering the company's helicopter network linking the head office and Tokyo and other cities, the company said.

The French helicopter has a cruising speed of 180 miles per hour (290 kph) and a range of 528 miles (850 km), the company said.

The company said its mission will visit nine semiconductor manufacturers in the United States from Saturday to Sept 10 to study procurement possibilities among the US makers.

The six-member mission will be headed by Hiroshi Arai, general manager of the company's electrical and electronics engineering division. It will include officials from Nippondenso Co., Japan's top automotive parts maker in which Toyota is a major

investor. The US makers consists of: Advanced Micro Devices, Inc., Harris Corp., Intel Corp., International Rectifier Corp., Motorola Inc., National Semiconductor Corp., Signetics Corp., Sprague Electric Co., and Texas Instruments Inc.

The mission will explain the company's "want list" and survey "the circumstances of the semiconductor makers' quality and technical levels, and requests that they carefully review the "want list," which details the specific semiconductor requirements of TMC and its electrical component suppliers," the company said.

The delegation will "stress the need for a long-term relationship of trust among automaker, electrical component supplier, and semiconductor manufacturer," it said.

Meanwhile, paced by soaring land and stock prices, Japan's national assets totalled \$43.7 trillion at the end of 1987, surpassing those of the United States for the first time, according to a newspaper report.

The leading economic journal Nihon Keizai Shimbun said the value of Japan's national assets compared with \$36.2 trillion for the United States at the end of 1987.

The value of national assets covers such items as stock prices, savings, insurance, manufacturing facilities, housing, land and inventories.

In yen terms, Japan's national assets totalled 5,338.3 trillion yen at the end of 1987, up 17.7 per cent over the preceding year, the Economic Planning Agency said.

The Finance Ministry earlier said Japan remained the world's top creditor nation for the fourth straight year in 1988 with its net assets overseas totalling \$291.75 billion, a record increase of \$51 billion over a year ago.

The value exceeded \$168.9 billion for West Germany and Britain at the end of 1987, the ministry said. The 1988 figures were not available.

The paper said high-flying land and stock prices and the yen's appreciation against the dollar were major contributing factors for the sharp increase in Japan's national assets.

The yen's value rose from 161.45 per dollar at the end of 1986 to 122.00 per dollar at the end of 1987.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange said the TSE's net assets stood at \$3.538 trillion (\$505.991 trillion yen) at the end of June, against \$2.941 trillion for the New York Stock Exchange at the end of July.

KIIC to set up funds to strengthen investment

KUWAIT, Aug. 23. (KUNA): Assistant director-general of local and direct investment at the Kuwaiti International Investment Company (KIIC) Mustafa Ibrahim Al Saleh said the company was intending to establish two funds to encourage investment and open new horizons for the Kuwaiti investor in foreign markets.

Interviewed by KUNA, Al Saleh said the first proposed fund aims at creating an access to Kuwaiti investors to Asian and Far East markets through an investment fund with an open capital in collaboration with Kuwait Investment Projects Company and a third non-Kuwaiti institution.

The second fund, Al Saleh added, is with guaranteed capital and low interest. He said the second fund would be established in collaboration with recognised non-Kuwaiti institutions.

He said the KIIC contributes to several investment funds including the International Finance Advisors (IFA), that ventures fund and Merry Lynch for pioneer investments.

Meanwhile, deputy director of portfolios department at the Kuwaiti Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company Maha Khaled Al Gunaim told KUNA that there were no local investment funds in Kuwait at present.

She disclosed that the company would set up local investment funds when the concerned authorities issue the special regulations regarding this matter.

EXCHANGE RATE

Indian rupee	18.100
Sri Lankan rupee	8.320
Pakistani rupee	14.300
Bangladesh taka	9.180
US dollar	29.890
Pound sterling	47.475
Deutsche mark	15.410
UAE dirham	0.8143
Japanese yen	0.02197

Sterling down

Dollar ends firmer UK stocks mixed

LONDON, Aug. 23. (Reuters): The dollar recovered in European trading today from losses the previous session caused by what dealers said was a wild rumour that West Germany was poised to raise its leading interest rates.

"It was an idiotic rumour, but some people used it as an excuse to move the dollar in a market without any other ideas," said one currency dealer in Frankfurt.

The dollar closed in London at 1.937 West German marks and 143.25 Japanese yen after ending Tuesday at 1.9410 and 142.60.

The pound sterling finished around one cent and one penny lower after Britain announced its second worst ever monthly balance of payments deficit. Although the July deficit was far greater than expected, London's share market took a lead from a buoyant Wall Street and rose to close at its highest level since the October 1987 global stocks crash.

The news that Britain's current account deficit for July widened to £2.06 billion (\$3.25 billion) after 1.5 billion pounds (\$2.5 billion) in June took financial markets by surprise. Economists had forecast a £1.4 billion (\$2.2 billion) gap.

"It shows there is an enormous gap between supply and demand in the economy, which the author-

ities will have to narrow in order to get inflation down," said Stephen Hannah, head of research at NatWest treasury and capital markets.

"They cannot reduce interest rates for the foreseeable future," The Bank of England bought pounds for dollars to support sterling but dealers said the central bank's move had little impact as it was offset by a large

order from Asia to sell the British currency.

The pound closed in London around \$1.5720 and 3.0683 against Tuesday's finish of 1.5827 and 3.0775.

In Tokyo, the dollar fell 0.43 yen to a closing 142.35.

Gold traded at \$364.25 per troy ounce in London late today, down from late Tuesday's 366.75.

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Investment agreements

RABAT, Aug. 23. (KUNA): Two agreements on touristic investments were concluded here today between Morocco and the "Liwa International" company for touristic investments chaired by Manes Said Al Oteiba.

Under the first agreement, two hotels, one in Fez (the Fez Hotel) and one in Marrakesh (Al Badea Hotel) will be transferred to "Liwa International".

The second accord provides for an investment programme under which two other hotels will be renovated and extended. Moroccan Minister of Tourism Mohammed Berrada who signed the accords on behalf of Morocco stressed the importance of the investment programme which will increase the kingdom's hotel capacity by over 1,200 beds and promote the sector of tourism which plays a key role in economic and social development in Morocco.

Dr Al Oteiba (United Arab Emirates Oil Minister) on his part pointed out that Morocco, owing to its opening onto the external world, its potentialities, and the advantages it provides to investors, gathers all conditions to attract Arab investors.

This initiative to invest in Morocco, he said, can be considered as an example that will certainly be followed by other Arab investors.

"Liwa International" will shortly undertake other projects in Morocco to promote the hotel sector. Al Oteiba.

Goldsmith, investor group buying 25pc of Mexican airline

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 23. (AP): A partnership that includes British investor Sir James Goldsmith and a Mexican investor group are jointly buying 25 per cent of Mexico's state-run airline, Mexicana de Aviacion, the government has announced.

The foreign partners, which includes Chase Manhattan Bank of New York and Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc., are pumping in slightly less than half of the \$140-million total investment, with the private Mexican investors adding the rest, officials said today.

"So the airline can face it necessities in the future, it will need, as does the rest of the sector significant investment," Jacques Rogozinski, head of the Finance Ministry advisory council, said at a news conference. Rogozinski said that within the next two

weeks, the government will release more specific details of the deal. He emphasised that the \$140 million is made up of fresh capital, none of it "swaps" for Mexican debt owed to foreign creditors.

Mexicana has been plagued by cash-flow problems related to its debt, which totalled \$253.6 million at the end of 1988.

The federal government, which now owns 51 per cent of the airline, will own 40.05 per cent under the new plan. Current private investors will own a maximum of 34.95 per cent.

Mexicana posted a profit of \$136.3 million last year on revenues of \$753.2 million. Total capitalisation of Mexicana will be \$550 million.

The government intends an investment of

more than \$3 billion in the airline over the next 10 years and adding 21,500 employees to the airline's current 14,000 workers, Rogozinski said. He said in the future, the government share of the airline will steadily decrease, perhaps to nothing.

The Mexican government, saddled with the second-highest foreign debt among developing countries, \$107.4 billion, has liberalised rules governing foreign investment to attract additional capital.

Goldsmith is one of Britain's wealthiest investors. He currently is involved with a group that has launched a hostile takeover of Bat Industries Plc, a British tobacco-retailing-insurance conglomerate.

In the past, he has taken control of Crown Zellerbach Corp.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Aug. 23. (Reuters): Demand for quality stocks boosted Australian share prices with a late buying spree. Brokers said the bullish trend was likely to continue. The All Ordinaries index closed 13.4 points up at 1,748.0.

TOKYO: Sharp drops in Japanese government bond prices and rumours of repercussions for stocks sparked afternoon selling in thin trade. The Nikkei index eased 221.07 points to close at 34,893.28 points.

HONG KONG: Stocks closed weaker in sluggish trade subdued by worries about the health of Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping. The Hang Seng index eased 22.17 to 2,521.39.

SINGAPORE: The Straits Times industrials gained 5.88 points to 1,276.74, mainly on rises in a few stocks. Losers outnumbered gainers 177 to 66.

BOMBAY: Rumours of a payment default on India's fourth largest exchange in Ahmedabad sparked nervous selling. Shares closed mixed with Tata Steel down 1.25 rupees to 1,212.50. The exchange is closed until Monday.

FRANKFURT: The DAX index sagged 14.14 points to 1,586.48 on fears that interest rates may rise.

PARIS: Groupe Victoire, target of a hostile takeover from Suez, lost 110 francs to 1,850 after a 915 franc rise when trading resumed on Tuesday. The 50-share indicator gained 0.35 per cent on the day.

ZURICH: Favourable prospects for Swiss companies boosted the All-Share performance index 9.5 points to 1,218.3.

LONDON: Wall Street gains helped UK shares overcome the effect of a larger than expected trade deficit. At 1700 GMT the FTSE index was up 11.6 at 2382.4.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, AUGUST 24-25, 1989

LONDON
(Alpha Stocks)

NAME	LAST	1/2 PREV. DAYS/2	PREV. OR	PREV. YR
ABBEY NAT	147.0	196.3	196.3	1455.3
ADT LTD	195.0	19.92	19.92	1182.7
ALD LYONS	553.0	1201.50	1201.50	1008.8
AMSTRAD	71.0	87.22	87.22	87.03
ARGVLL GP	247.0	201.70	202.00	161.9
ASDA GP	196.0	701.86	705.71	565.31
BAA	348.0	2159.7	2159.7	1725.4
BAT	470.0	151.91	152.05	141.17
BAT INDS	841.0	142.14	142.14	115.30
BARCLAYS	532.0			
BASS	147.0			
BEAZER	175.0			
BERISFORD	159.0			
BET ORD	319.0			
BIC PLC	550.0			
BLUE ARROW	111.4			
BLUE CIRCU	263.0			
BOC GP	535.0			
BOOTS CO	300.0			
BPB INDS	252.5			
BR COMM	171.0			
BR AIRWAY	197.0			
BR AEROSP	690.0			
BR GAS RG	208.0			
BR LAND	380.0			
B.P.	294.0			
BR STEEL	274.0			
BR TELCOM	257.0			
BUNZL	151.0			
BURNHAM OL	650.0			
BURTON	260.0			
CABLE&WIR	585.0			
CADBURYS	414.0			
CALOR GRP	436.0			
CLINTON R	890.0			
CLINTON R	885.0			
COOKSON	374.0			
COURTAUD	390.0			
DALGETY	410.0			
DIXONS	474.0			
ENG CHINA	583.0			
ENTER OIL	127.0			
F&I PLC	127.0			
FERRANTI	75.0			
FISONS	350.0			
GATEWAY	235.0			
GEN ACCID	013.0			
GEN ELEC	273.0			
GLAXO	542.0			
GRANADA	365.0			
GLOBE	198.0			
GLYMED	316.0			
GKN	464.0			
GUINNESS	588.0			
HAMPSHIRE	788.0			
HANSON	230.0			
HANSON WT	55.0			
HARRISON C	169.0			
HICKS SID	750.0			
HILLSDOWN	314.0			
INCHCAPE	288.0			

LONDON
(Beta Stocks)

NAME	CLOSE	OPEN
2ND ALLCE	032.0	031.0
600 GROUP	133.0	134.0
A.AMER TS	499.0	498.0
A.B.ELECT	400.0	398.0
A.S.W.HLD	280.0	280.0
AAR HLD	131.0	131.0
AAH HLD	400.0	400.0
ARMSTRONG	92.0	94.0
ADISON	38.0	37.0
ADVEST	201.0	201.0
ALEX WRKX	230.0	230.0
ALLD TR B	163.0	164.0
ALLD LN	151.0	151.0
ALLD PART	75.4	76.0
ALLD TEXT	385.0	385.0
ALLIANCE	164.0	166.0
AMBER DAY	66.4	66.4
AMEC	473.0	473.0
AMER TST	172.0	172.0
AMERSHAM	468.0	469.0
AMH HLTHC	415.0	415.0
ANGLIA SC	150.0	148.0
ANGLO TV	301.0	302.0
ANGLO O'S	295.4	297.0
ANSCHAGER	75.0	76.0
APLEYARD	163.0	164.0
ARV PLC	140.4	141.0
ASHLEY LA	97.0	97.0
ATWOODS	490.0	491.0
AUST REED	416.0	415.0
AUTO SECS	282.0	282.0
AVESCO	143.0	143.0
AVIS EUR	569.0	565.0
AVON RUBB	504.0	502.0
B.WENMILL	280.0	281.0
BABCOCK	65.0	64.4
BAILL JAP	616.0	616.0
BAILL SHI	106.0	106.0
BAIRD (W)	243.0	243.0
BAL TIC	161.0	160.0
BANK IRE	231.0	232.0
BANKER IT	98.4	99.0
BARON GP	203.0	203.0
BART DEV	176.0	176.0
BAWNEYS C	34.0	34.0
BBA GROUP	220.0	220.0
BEAR BIRD	11.4	11.4
BEATTIE J	142.0	142.0
BELHAVEN	53.4	54.0
BELLWAY	192.0	191.0
BENMORE	244.0	243.0
BENLOW HD	56.0	57.0
BERKELEY	189.0	189.0
BHH GROUP	143.0	143.0
BK OF SCO	107.0	108.0
BLACK LE 2	9.0	8.4
BM GROUP	525.0	523.0
BUNNETT F	97.0	97.0
BODDINGTON	181.0	182.0
BOOY SHOP	446.0	448.0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/2 PREV. DAYS/2	PREV. OR	PREV. YR
FT 300 ORD	1795.9	1966.3	1966.3	1455.3
FT 500 SHR	19.92	19.92	19.92	1182.7
FT ALL SHR	1201.50	1201.50	1201.50	1008.8
FT GOV SEC	87.22	87.22	87.22	87.03
FT GOLD MIN	201.70	202.00	202.00	161.9
FT MINES F	701.86	705.71	705.71	565.31
FT OIL	2159.7	2159.7	2159.7	1725.4
FT VLD DLR	151.91	152.05	152.05	141.17
FT MLD STG	142.14	142.14	142.14	115.30

London Stock Market Report

UK STOCKS MIXED, DRIFTING AFTER TRADE DATA

LONDON, AUG 23, REUTER - NEWS OF A LARGER THAN EXPECTED 2.06 BILLION STG U.K. JULY CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT LEFT SHARE PRICES MIXED IN DIRECTIONLESS TRADE TRADING, AFTER A VOLATILE INITIAL REACTION TO THE FIGURES.

MOST OBSERVERS HAVE EXPECTED THAT SEASONAL FACTORS AND SPECIAL SITUATIONS COULD PRODUCE AN ANOMALOUS TRADE FIGURE. HOWEVER, THE SIZE OF THE DEFICIT, WHICH IS THE SECOND LARGEST EVER, UNSHAKED THE MARKET DEALERS SAID.

"EVEN AFTER ATTEMPTS TO TAKE OUT THE DISTORTIONS, IT LOOKS A WORRYING FIGURE. YOU COULD WELL SEE A REVERSAL OF THE (MARKET'S) RECENT TIGHT STOCK SUPPLY," ONE SAID.

BY 1530 GMT THE FTSE INDEX WAS 10.9 POINTS UP AT 2,381.7 AND SHOWING SIGNS OF RISING FURTHER ON A FIRMER U.S. TREND.

ALTHOUGH THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DATA PROMPTED VOLATILITY IN PRICES - A CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT OF AROUND 1.4 BILLION STG HAD BEEN EXPECTED - THE MARKET'S REACTION WAS INDICATIVE OF A RECENT LACK OF INSTITUTIONAL SELLING INTEREST AFTER BAD NEWS, A FACTOR WHICH HAS PROVIDED A SUPPORT FOR PRICES, DEALERS SAID.

STERLING SHOWED A SHARP ADVERSE REACTION TO THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DATA, LOSING 0.4 POINT ON THE DAY IN TRADE WEIGHTED TERMS AT 91.2, WITH DECLINES NOTABLE AGAINST THE MARK.

ICI ADDED 17P AT 1,336 WHILE BRITISH TELECOM LOST 1P TO 257.

London Gold

LONDON, AUG 23, (REUTERS): GOLD BULLION FELL BACK DURING LATE TRADING TO END LOWER AFTER HOLDING LITTLE CHANGED FOR MOST OF THE DAY, DEPRESSED BY LOSSES IN NEW YORK.

GOLD CLOSED AT 364.00/364.50 DLR AN OUNCE, DOWN FROM OPENING AND PREVIOUS CLOSING LEVELS OF 366.30/366.70 AND 366.60/367.00 DLR.

DEALERS SAID THE DOLLAR'S LATE FIRMNESS WAS PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECLINE, ALTHOUGH THE MARKET WAS MOSTLY UNDER PRESSURE BY FUND LIQUIDATION IN NEW YORK, WHERE SELL-STOP ORDERS WERE ALSO TRIGGERED. A PART FORM THE LATE FALL, CONDITIONS WERE DULL AS THE GOLD HELD IN ITS RECENT NEUTRAL 365/367 RANGE.

London Money Market

LONDON, AUG 23, REUTER - A SURPRISINGLY LARGE 2.06 BILLION STG JULY CURRENT ACCOUNT GAP SHOOK U.K. MONEY MARKETS OUT OF THEIR LETHARGY AND PUSHED RATES UP 1/8 POINT. THIS WAS THE FIRST MAJOR MOVE IN RATES SINCE A BETTER THAN EXPECTED SET OF TRADE FIGURES KNOCKED THEM INTO A LOWER TRADING RANGE A MONTH AGO.

THE MARKET HAD EXPECTED THE IMPROVEMENT IN THE CURRENT ACCOUNT TO CONTINUE AND WAS LOOKING FOR A 1.4 BILLION STG DEFICIT AFTER JUNE'S 1.5 BILLION SHORTFALL. AS ONE ANALYST SAID, WHAT APPEARED TO BE A POSITIVE CHANGE HAS PROVED ILLUSORY.

THE KEY THREE MONTH INTERBANK RATE CLOSED AT 13-15/16 7/8 PCT, UP FROM LAST NIGHT'S CLOSE AT 13-29/32 27/32.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPN
1.5722/27	1.9463/70	6.2675/05	10.3200/3410	NOON
1.9389/9469	3.057/071	29.545/705		FIX
6.5715/5835	10.328/346	33.179/83		FIX
6.753/6863	2.606/6658	86.23/33	25.55/70	NOON
1.2.1960	3.45	1.2735	33.395	FIX
1.06678	6.77322	2.07542	7.00556	CLSE
1.25025	0.792401	2.44649	8.25540	CLSE
142.50/60	226.00/60			NOON
SOR RATE	22/08/1989	OTHERS	23/08/1989	

BOOKER	464.0	464.0	H'LAND DIS	247.0	248.0
BOOTH HENR	500.0	503.0	HALMA	182.0	182.0
BOUSTED	70.4	71.0	HAMMERSON	853.0	855.0
BR ARROW	129.0	129.0	HANTH LE	61.6	62.4
BR ASSETS	84.2	84.4	HAZELWOOD	263.0	263.0
BR DREDGI	161.0	160.0	HEATH(CE)	468.0	469.0
BR VITA	288.0	288.0	HELEMAN PL	33.0	33.4
BRENT CHE	153.0	153.0	HELMAL B	349.0	349.0
BRENT WKR	395.0	395.0	HEMARTH	297.0	297.0
BRIDON	197.0	198.0	HESTAIR	230.0	229.0
BRITAIN SE	185.0	185.0	HEYWOOD W	286.0	286.0
BRITANNIC	480.0	479.0	HICKS IN	275.0	275.0
BRIXTON E	244.0	243.0	HIGGS HIL	346.0	340.0
BRN & JAC	43.0	42.0	HMBRO CTY	43.0	43.0
BROWN SHI	345.0	345.0	HMBRO 20P	208.0	208.0
BRYANT GP	98.0	98.0	HOLTR SPHR	163.0	163.0
BSG INTL	77.0	77.0	HOLMES PR	83.0	83.0
BUDGENS	115.0	114.0	HODGEN GP	158.0	158.0
BULLOUGH	143.0	142.0	HOPKINSON	73.0	73.0
BULLMER HP	183.0	183.0	HWDY OGS	152.0	153.0
CATRO GRP	544.0	543.0	HV GROUP	112.0	112.0
CALENDONIA	394.0	393.0	ICE.FZ.FD	377.0	378.0
CAMB ELEC	200.0	200.0	IMRY N.OV	648.0	648.0
CAMFORD E	283.0	284.0	INDPOT W	15.0	15.0
CANNING W	283.0	282.0	INT.BUL.ON	148.0	149.0
CANNON ST	229.0	230.0	INT.CITY	49.0	50.0
CAP.RADIO	890.0	890.0	JHNSN&FR	58.0	58.0
CARADON	343.0	342.0	JOS HLDGS	165.0	165.0
CARLCO EN	136.0	136.0	KALAMAZOO	32.4	32.0
CATTLE HD	67.0	67.0	KALON GRP	37.4	37.4
CAULDON	11.0	11.4	KELT ENGY	55.4	56.0
CENTL ITV	813.0	818.0	KELSON	17.0	16.4
CHARTERNA	22.2	22.2	KLMRT CHR	161.6	161.4
CHLORIDE	37.4	37.0	KLMRT D'S	179.0	179.0
CHRISTIES	326.0	325.0	KLMRT SML	192.0	192.0
CI GROUP	49.0	49.0	KLVK SAVE	54.7	54.7
CLAYFORD	296.0	293.0	KLVK-FIT	118.4	119.0
CLNTL SEC	57.0	57.0	LAING ORG	306.0	306.0
CNTRY OIL	146.0	147.0	LAING PRP	523.0	523.0
COALITE	476.0	477.0	LAIRD GRP	257.0	257.0
COATES BR	267.0	265.0	LAWRENCE W	129.0	130.0
COLOROLD	146.0	147.0	LDN & MET	165.0	166.0
CONNELLS	194.0	195.0	LDN ATLAN	80.0	80.0
COOPER F	172.0	172.0	LDN INTL	246.4	248.0
COSTAIN	323.0	323.0	LDN UTD	55.0	55.0
COURTS FR	183.0	185.0	LDNEDIN	149.0	149.0
COVIE (T)	127.0	128.0	LEISURE I	63.0	63.0
CRH	210.0	211.0	LEP GROUP	174.0	175.0
CRODA INT	223.0	224.0	LEX SERV	376.0	360.0
CRYSTALAT	87.0	87.0	LIFE SCIE	88.0	88.0
CTRY PROP	225.0	225.0	LIT	111.0	111.0
DARES EST	32.0	32.0	LLOYD THP	219.0	220.0
DAVIS GPD	179.0	180.0	LOGICA	338.0	338.0
DAVY CORP	258.0	259.0	LOVELL HD	273.0	273.0
DAVY CORP	121.0	121.0	LOW (M)	325.0	325.0
DELTA GRP	357.0	358.0	LOWNDES	25.0	25.0
DEVENISH	342.0	343.0	M&G GROUP	361.0	362.0
DEWINTA	40.4	40.4	M.C.PACIF	248.0	248.0
DIPLOMA	189.0	190.0	M.H.HLDGS	144.0	145.0
DOESON PK	99.4	99.0	MACARTHY	279.0	278.0
DOWDAS GR	383.0	383.0	MACFARLINE	263.0	260.0
DOWLINGEM	76.0	77.0	MAI	104.0	103.4
DOVY GRP	292.0	292.0	MAJEDIE	260.0	260.0
DRAYTON FE	467.0	467.0	MANDERS	220.0	220.0
DRAYTON C	569.0	568.0	MARLEY	141.0	142.0
DRG	556.0	558.0	MATTHEWS	68.0	69.0
DUKENISTR	73.0	74.0	MAUNDERS	95.0	95.0
DUNDEE LD	320.0	321.0	MCKECHNIE	335.0	335.0
DUNHILL	399.0	400.0	MENES	215.0	215.0
EAGLE TST	17.4	17.6	MENZIES	388.0	389.0
EDMON I.T	217.0	217.0	MERCH. TST	199.0	199.0
EDMON HD	38.4	38.4	MERLIN IN	79.0	79.0
ELECTRA	332.4	334.0	METAL CLS	169.0	168.0
ELECTROCH	215.0	217.0	METALRAX	94.0	94.0
EMAP	259.0	259.0	METALRAX	404.0	405.0
EMESS	132.0	133.0	MIDSMUR	224.0	224.0
EMPIRE ST	177.0	177.0	MNT CHLT	92.4	93.0
ENG.INT.J	161.0	161.0	MOLINS	229.0	
ETAM	218.0	218.0	MOMKS IT	307.0	307.0
EURO.HOME	174.0	175.0	MORGAN CR	308.0	308.0
EUTROTHERM	358.0	357.0	MORGAN GF	314.0	314.0
EUTRNL UT	794.0	795.0	MORLAND	790.0	785.0
EUTRNL WT	65.0	65.0	MOUNTLEIG	171.0	172.0
EVODE GRP	178.0	179.0	MOUNLEN J	424.0	424.0
EX.CO.LOU	253.0	254.0	MRY INCH	236.4	236.0
EXPANET	217.0	217.0	MRY INTL	239.0	239.0
F&C ENTER	35.2	35.0	MS INTL	419.0	419.0
F&C ENTER	349.0	350.0	N.BRIT CA	419.0	419.0
F&C PACIF	204.0	203.0	NAT. TELCH	90.0	90.0
F&C SHLLR	89.4	89.0	NEWARTH	288.0	275.0
FARNELL E	157.0	157.0	NORCROS	301.0	301.0
FED. HOUSH	137.0	138.0	NORFOLK C	36.6	35.0
FED. HOUSH	137.0	137.0	NORMANS	61.0	60.4
FERGUSON	278.0	278.0	NORTHAMBR	219.0	218.0
FINE ARTS	278.0	278.0	NORTH OPX	16.0	165.0
FINLAN GP	76.0	77.0	NSK PL	124.0	123.0
FINLAY J	112.0	111.0	NURDINSCO	199.0	200.0
FITCH LCH	284.0	286.0	O'SEAS IT	254.0	254.0
FLM.H.INC	110.0	110.0	OCEAN TPT	356.0	355.0
FLMG AMER	178.0	178.0	OCEANICS	27.0	27.0
FLMG ENT	152.4	152.0	OSSORY EST	22.2	22.0
FLMG F.E	161.0	261.0	OWNERS AB	73.2	73.0
FLMG JAPN	276.0	276.0	OXFORD INS	274.0	274.0
FLMG OSEA	210.0	211.0	P & P	129.0	129.0
FLMG TECH	205.0	205.0	P & P PLC	219.0	219.0
FRINDLY HO	273.0	273.0	PACIFIC A	254.0	253.0
FROMGORE	536.0	535.0	PAGE (M)	55.0	55.0
GALLIFORD	95.0	95.0	PENTLAND	75.0	75.0
GARDINER	99.0	99.0	PENTOS PLC	115.0	114.0
GEEST	305.0	305.0	PERGAMON	60.0	60.0
GEEST	305.0	305.0	PERRY GRP	210.0	210.0
GERARDNAT	263.0	261.0	PERSIMMON	150.0	151.0
GESTETNER	277.0	277.0	PHENIX	88.0	88.0
GOODE DUR	127.0	127.0	PICKWICK	232.0	232.0
GRP	22.0	23.0	PORTER C	107.0	107.0
GRAMP	221.0	221.0	PRESTWICH	130.0	
GREEN KNG	524.0	523.0	PRIEST (C)	27.6	27.4
GREENLW X	358.0	357.0	PRIEST MA	510.0	510.0
GREYCOAT	555.0	555.0	PROSECUR	274.0	274.0
GREYCE T	68.0	70.0	PROSECUR	282.0	282.0
GT PRTLND	334.0	335.0	PROV FINL	330.0	330.0
GUINNESS MA	145.0	145.0	RAINF. IND	102.4	106.0
GUS ORD	575.0	550.0			
GUZ ORIE	260.0	260.0			
GUZ ORIE	260.0	301.0			

Malaysia sustains rapid growth

Petroleum sector

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 23, (OPECNA): Malaysia's national oil company, Petronas, last year had reserves estimated at 2.9 billion barrels of oil and 52 trillion cu ft of gas, ranking it 22nd and 16th in the world oil and gas reserves league respectively.

According to reports here, the company now owns an east coast refinery capable of producing 30,000 BPD and has established a nation-wide retail network.

The greatest single downstream investment to date is the Bintulu liquefied natural gas (LNG) project in Sarawak. Malaysia is the world's third largest LNG exporter with output currently running at around six million tonnes a year.

Gas schemes designed to meet domestic needs have been established in Sarawak, Sabah and in peninsular Malaysia, where manpower and equipment will shortly be brought in to construct Southeast Asia's longest gas pipeline, scheduled for completion in 1991.

In addition, two petrochemical projects using gas as feedstock are planned — a \$201 million methyl tertiary butyl ether/propylene project and a \$113 million polypropylene scheme.

Petroleum now accounts for 33 per cent of total federal government revenues, with crude oil remaining the largest primary commodity export earner. All resources are vested in Petronas, which comprises eight wholly-owned and 10 partly-owned subsidiaries and associate companies. In fiscal 1987/88 the group recorded a turnover of \$3.4 billion.

Since 1985, Petronas has signed up 31 international companies for a total of 22 production-sharing contracts. In the five years 1989-1993 some \$1.2 billion have been earmarked for exploration work and 2.5 billion for development.

Corporation president Aziz Zainul Abidin said here they were formulating plans to acquire 8,000 km of new seismic data in deep water areas to obtain a better understanding of the geology involved. Once they had a clearer picture of the extent of the hydrocarbon potential and the cost of exploring in deep sea areas, the corporation would be able to draw up appropriate production-sharing terms.

UK trade deficit widens

LONDON, Aug 23, (AP): Britain's merchandise trade deficit widened to \$2.46 billion (\$3.88 billion) in July from a revised shortfall of \$1.92 billion (\$3.03 billion) in June, the government announced today.

The Central Statistical Office said the worse-than-expected, seasonally adjusted figures could have been distorted by a three-week strike by dock workers at some British ports. The strike ended earlier this month.

The pound started to fall in hectic trading on the news, from \$1.5875 before the figures were released at 11.30 am (1030 GMT) to \$1.5890, but the Bank of England quickly intervened.

The government said the current account deficit for July was \$2.06 billion (\$3.25 billion), compared with a month-earlier deficit of \$1.52 billion (\$2.40 billion).

The current account deficit includes invisible trade, such as services, overseas investment earnings and official transfer payments. Such trade was estimated to be in surplus by \$400 million (\$632 million).

Forecasts had called for a merchandise trade gap of \$1.7 billion to \$1.8 billion (\$2.68 billion to \$2.84 billion) and a current account deficit of \$1.3 billion to \$1.4 billion (\$2.05 billion to \$2.21 billion).

Imports totalled a record \$10.19 billion (\$16.10 billion) in July, up from \$9.79 billion (\$15.46 billion) in June.

Since the beginning of 1989, Britain's merchandise trade balance has been in deficit by \$14.27 billion (\$22.54 billion), compared with a deficit of \$11.22 billion (\$17.72 billion) a year earlier.

The current account has been in deficit by \$11.54 billion (\$18.23 billion) so far this year, compared with a deficit of \$7.65 billion (\$12.08 billion) a year earlier.

Creditors see oil reserves as a guarantee of future prosperity

Iraq trying to power its way to economic growth

BAGHDAD, Aug 23, (Reuters): Iraq is trying to power its way to economic growth after a debilitating eight-year-long war with Iran, but debt problems and oil revenue limits stand in the way.

The Iraqi government veils the performance of the economy in secrecy, jealously guarding vital statistics from foreign banks and companies, governments and international bodies.

Creditors see Iraq's oil reserves, the world's second biggest, as a guarantee of future prosperity for the nation of 17 million, especially if oil prices firm in the next decade.

But now they pore over fragments of data to puzzle out how Baghdad hopes to fund ambitious reconstruction and development plans, maintain a formidable war machine, feed its people

and keep up payments on a huge foreign debt.

One Western economist reckons the Gulf war, apart from the toll in human life, may have cost Iraq \$100 billion in military equipment, 35 billion in damage and 15 billion in lost oil exports.

One thing is clear. Proud of what they see as a triumph in war which ended last August when a UN-brokered ceasefire came into force, Iraq's rulers do not intend to seek a general rescheduling of non-Arab debt estimated at \$30 to \$35 billion.

"We don't think it is productive to face our creditors as a group," a senior official told Reuters bluntly.

So far the strategy of picking off creditors one by one with the lure of

future contracts has met only limited success and many of Iraq's major trading partners have cut credit lines.

"Iraq is doing nothing positive to deal with the debt problem," one diplomat said. "We would expect them to reassess development objectives in the light of limited resources, but they are trying to borrow themselves deeper into debt."

Oil, accounting for at least 95 per cent of Iraq's export earnings, may bring in \$14 to \$15 billion this year, compared with about 12 billion last year, diplomats say.

"Iraq is still in an oil revenue straitjacket," one said. "Previously its export ability was restricted. Now the constraint will be either its OPEC quota or market reality."

Since the ceasefire, Iraq has continued to expand oil export capacity, which may reach six million barrels per day (BPD) next year, and boost refining and production facilities.

It plans to spend over \$6 billion on 30 oil projects in the next four years and now claims total oil reserves of 280 billion barrels, at least 100 billion of them proven. Only Saudi Arabia has greater proven reserves.

Though production capacity of four to 4.5 million BPD currently lags behind export capacity, Iraq's growing oil muscle must worry its partners in the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries despite official assurances that Baghdad will stick to its OPEC-assigned quota, now 2,783,000 BPD.

Creditors say extracting payments

remains a headache despite Iraq's higher revenue and the year-old ceasefire with Iran.

"Obviously the Iraqi government is getting more oil revenue in higher-valued dollars than in the previous two years, but its willingness to repay debts has not improved," a diplomat said.

Cash is also tight because Iraq has committed up to half its oil exports to barter and debt repayment schemes, diplomats said.

Food imports cost \$2 to \$3 billion a year, annual interest payments absorb up to three billion and transfers by foreign workers require at least one billion.

Military spending is anyone's guess, but little is left over for new projects, consumer imports or the drive to repair

war damage to Basra and Fao in the south.

There is no shortage of projects as the Iraqis dust off their unpublished 1981 to 1986 development plan.

Ministries compete for scarce hard currency to build ports, power plants, irrigation schemes and petrochemical, fertilizer, aluminium, steel, vehicle and defence industries.

"The Iraqis cannot allow the perception that the Iraqis have frustrated their economic objectives, so they proceed as if the war was a minor interruption," one diplomat said.

But no boom is in sight for companies seeking business in post-war Iraq. They are normally asked to find their own financing, with payment deferred for at least two years.

Single exchange rate for Jordan

Amman agrees to 5-year economic reform plan

AMMAN, Aug 23, (Reuters): Jordan will unify its dual exchange rate system before an IMF team visits Amman in November to assess progress on an economic reform plan, an official source said today.

"We will have a single exchange rate for the dinar before November when the International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission visits us to evaluate the programme it reached with us in April," the source said. He gave no further details.

Jordan agreed to an IMF-subscribed five-year economic reform plan in April to reduce its balance of payments and budget

deficits and secure the fund's backing to reschedule repayments on Amman's more than \$7 billion foreign debt.

The IMF does not favour a two-tier exchange system for the dinar which it sees as a form of indirect subsidies and officials have repeatedly said it was a temporary measure.

On July 31, the Central Bank launched the system under which it freed banks to trade foreign currency at market rates but asked them to adhere to the official rate to finance imports of some medicines, subsidised food

stuffs and fees of Jordanians studying abroad.

The move, coupled with the arrival of substantial Arab aid and intervention by the Central Bank to stabilise the battered dinar has helped in firming the local currency on the free market and encouraged Jordanians working abroad to send their dollars home through the banking system.

The dinar held firm against the dollar at the official and bank rates today, dealers said.

They were pricing the dinar at 705/735 fils to the dollar compared to Tuesday's widely quoted rates of 715/735 fils.

The dinar soared to a mid-rate of as low as 940 fils in the free

market less than three weeks ago.

The Central Bank fixed the dinar at 597.9/603.9 fils to the dollar, unchanged since Monday.

The state-run news agency Petra said today the Central Bank was willing to supply banks with cheap dollars to meet the needs of items that are covered by the official rate.

For the first time in more than nine months, the Central Bank has also begun buying dollars from local banks, which have accumulated surpluses over the past 10 days as Jordanians began dumping dollars for dinars.

World Bank, IMF invited

Africa steps up drive for debt meeting

NAIROBI, Aug 23, (Reuters): African officials meet in Cairo next Monday to step up pressure for an international conference on the continent's \$240-billion foreign debt which they say their countries can't repay.

The three-day seminar arranged by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) is the latest move in a four-year campaign for a full-scale conference which creditors have so far resisted on grounds such as appropriate forums already exist.

But the 50-member OAU says far more must be done to ease Africa's debt burden if it is to weather the economic crises that have swamped it in the 1980s.

"Much more debt relief has to be granted," African leaders declared after their annual summit last month in Addis Ababa.

"Chances for eventually meeting the ever-increasing debt burden are nil under present circumstances," says an OAU report entitled "The case for an international conference on Africa's



President Mubarak

external indebtedness." Representatives from creditor nations, organisations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and

other financial and monetary experts have been invited to the seminar.

It gives Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, elected OAU chairman in July, a chance to score an early diplomatic triumph if it succeeds in coaxing creditors to accept a conference.

Creditors initially were cool to the idea, saying they preferred a case-by-case approach to the debt problems.

They were also wary such a conference would set a precedent for collective bargaining which heavily indebted Latin American states, with their greater economic clout, might try to exploit.

But Mubarak's predecessor, President Moussa Traore of Mali, felt there had been a sufficient thaw by the time he handed over to suggest tentatively a conference could be held in December.

The OAU said Africa's debt, which jumped nearly five-fold in the last decade, had caused political instability and posed a

major constraint on economic growth and development.

While the sum might seem modest against the \$400 billion owed by Latin American states, it equals more than four-tenths of Africa's economic activity, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa says.

It said higher debt repayments, reduced capital inflows and lower earnings from Africa's main exports of farm products and minerals led to slower growth in the first half of 1989.

It estimated that economic growth, as measured by gross domestic product, slipped to an annualised 2.2 per cent in the first half of the year from 2.5 per cent in 1988.

This was well behind the 3.1 per cent growth in population.

Official development assistance rose but the increase was more than offset by a fall in private capital inflow, including commercial bank loans, direct investment and export credit.

\$50b may not be enough

Move to bail out savings industry

WASHINGTON, Aug 23, (AP): The government's heralded \$50-billion savings and loan bailout probably isn't large enough, federal regulators are indicating now after looking at new figures on the industry's health.

The nation's 2,934 savings and loan institutions lost \$3.7 billion in the April-June quarter, up from \$3.5 billion in the first three months of the year, the Office of Thrift Supervision said today.

It was the biggest loss since the record \$4.1-billion loss in the second quarter of 1988.

The latest discouraging report came just two weeks after President George Bush signed legislation authorising a \$50-billion bailout to close or sell failed institutions over the next 26 months.

During the six months leading up to the bill's approval, administration officials repeatedly said they believed \$50 billion would be adequate, although they couldn't guarantee it.

Now, regulators' statements indicate that private analysts probably are right in predicting the admin-

istration will have to come back to congress for more money.

David C. Cooke, executive director of the Resolution Trust Corp., the new agency charged with the cleanup, said today the \$50 billion won't cover much more than 500 failed savings and loans. The agency now has 264 insolvent institutions in its control after closing seven this month.

"If it gets up to 500, it probably be awfully tight. I can tell you that," Cooke told reporters at a luncheon. "Our best hope is... (it will be) a little more than 400."

Meanwhile, James R. Barth, chief economist of the Office of Thrift Supervision, which regulates the industry, said at a news conference that he expects "upwards of 600" failed savings and loans will eventually be transferred from his jurisdiction to Cook's agency.

Barth said 401 institutions already were insolvent at the end of June, up from 394 three months earlier.

Saudi riyal deposits firm

NICOSIA, Aug 23, (Reuters): Saudi riyal interbank deposits firmed around 1/8 point today on back of a similar rise in Eurodollar rates, but only shorted funds were traded as operators held off amid uncertainty over market direction.

"The market is very confused... people are waiting to see which way the dollar rates go," one dealer said.

Riyal deposits often closely tracked dollar interest rates.

One-month to one-year funds were marked up to 8-13/16, 9/16 per cent from 8-11/16, 7/16 on Tuesday. The one-week was steady at 8-7/8, 3/8 per cent and spot-next at nine, 8-1/2.

The spot riyal firmed to 3.7504/07 to the dollar.



Carlos Menem

Plans to boost trade ties

Menem in Brasilia

BRASILIA, Brazil, Aug 23, (AP): Argentine President Carlos Menem is in Brazil's capital city to sign agreements aimed at increasing trade between South America's two largest nations.

Menem, who is in Brazil for a three-day economic summit meeting, travelled to Brasilia last night with President Jose Sarney aboard an Air Force jet from the city of Uruguiana, 1,550 miles (2,500 kilometres) to the southwest, said Argentine presidential spokesman Humberto Toledo.

Today, Menem is scheduled to meet with six Brazilian presidential candidates, visit several ministries and sign several economic accords with Sarney.

During a reception for Menem last evening at the Itamaraty Palace, or Foreign Ministry building, a young man momentarily disrupted the festivities by painting "our Sarney" with red liquid on the palace floor, witnesses said.

Moments after Menem and Sarney received the guests in the banquet room of the palace, a well-dressed man in his early 30s shouted from the press area and began painting on the floor.

Before he had finished painting the phrase, he was surrounded by security agents and taken from the room, witnesses said.

"That is the blood of the Brazilian people," the man shouted as he was taken away, according to Miro Nunes, a photographer for the Associated Press.

Proposals

During the three-hour plane trip to Brasilia, Menem studied several proposals to improve transportation between the two countries, including an intercontinental railway link, Toledo said.

Earlier, the governors of Brazil's southern states and Argentina's northern provinces told the presidents that their countries need a bridge at the border between Sao Borja, Brazil, and Santo Tome, Argentina, to provide a rail connection linking the Atlantic coast of Brazil with Chile's Pacific coast.

The local leaders also called for building a 550-mile (900-kilometre) natural gas pipeline from San Jeronimo, Argentina, to Porto Alegre, the largest city in southern Brazil.

Brazil and Argentina traded \$1.7 billion worth of goods between them last year. That is more than double their trade in 1985, when they announced plans to create a common market.

Common market plans generally have not worked in Latin America, largely because of protectionism among individual countries.

Menem, Argentina's second consecutive civilian president, planned to tour southern Brazil tomorrow and then return to Argentina.

AMS general meeting planned

SENIOR Arab personalities in high office, managers, university professors and businessmen from some seventeen Arab countries have started converging on the City of Niagara Falls in the State of New York to take part in the inaugural general meeting of the Arab Management Society (AMS) which will be held on Aug 29, at the Niagara Hilton.

AMS is a not-for-profit pan-Arab non-government organisation incorporated in the State of New York and affiliated with Canisius College of Buffalo (N.Y.). The society aims at the advancement of modern principles of management and the dissemination of management techniques through providing continuous education seminars and training courses.

Michael O'Laughlin, mayor of the City of Niagara Falls, Father James Demko S.J., president of Canisius will officiate at the meeting which will also be addressed by Tala Abu-Ghazaleh on behalf of the founding committee. The keynote speaker is Clovis Maksood the Arab League ambassador to the United Nations.

World airlines face heavy cost of conforming to new noise rules

MONTREAL, Aug 23, (Reuters): The world's airlines may have to spend billions of dollars to make their aircraft quieter if planned noise restrictions are adopted.

Up to two-thirds of all commercial jetliners could be affected, says the Montreal-based International Civil Aviation Organisation, a United Nations agency.

The organisation is due in September to make a recommendation on proposals it has been formulating for several years to set maximum noise levels on takeoff and landing.

Western European countries have already announced plans to phase the new regulations in around 1995 and the United States is considering imposing them.

"We're anticipating it, not necessarily hoping for it," said Susan Timper, a

spokeswoman for Pan American World Airways, a major US carrier to Europe.

Japan, Australia and New Zealand are expected to follow suit but Canada has no plans to implement the changes.

About 5,400 of the 8,000 jetliners in commercial service world-wide at the end of 1987, including older planes such as the Boeing 727 and the McDonnell Douglas DC-9, would have been modified under the rules, the Civil Aviation Organisation said.

There are two ways to get around the problem — upgrade existing planes or buy new ones — and the airline's total bill for muffling their fleets could reach \$6.3 billion the organisation said.

Early replacement is expected to save the airlines money on operating costs over time because fewer jets are much

more fuel efficient and require fewer crew than older planes.

Even allowing for the savings, the cost could still be as high as \$4.6 billion.

"What is involved is bringing forward the cost of a purchase earlier than was planned," said Upati Wickrama, chief economist for the civil aviation group.

Reconditioning existing planes, which should be an option with new technologies expected soon, would cost \$3 million to \$10 million per aircraft at current prices.

"We think that between now and the end of the next decade, we should succeed in having all our planes meet the requirements," said Stephanie Duguey, Public Affairs Manager for Air Canada in Montreal.

Canada's largest airline, recently

privatised by the federal government, maintains a fleet of 114 planes. Forty-one already meet the standards and the airline is gradually replacing older jets with Airbus A-320s and new model Boeing 747s.

The new rules will create a glut of used substandard planes, said a study by the Montreal-based Civil Aviation Organisation.

Many of these aircraft could be sold to countries not applying the new rules, where they could be used internally.

The study says used jets that could be modified to meet the rules would fetch high prices but that the supply of older planes to be withdrawn from service in noise-restricted countries would be more than three times the demand in the rest of the world.

Two-thirds of older jets not quiet

enough to meet the new rules would be registered in noise-restricted countries and would have to be replaced or altered.

But it is still unresolved whether planes registered in unrestricted countries will have to meet the noise rules.

Most affected would be carriers in North Africa, Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean which make frequent flights to nearby noise-restricted areas.

North African carriers would have to spend \$219 million and airlines in the Caribbean basin \$305 million replacing or modifying roughly half their fleets, if the restrictions were widely adopted.

The study seems to reject the possibility of waiving the new noise rules for carriers outside the countries adopting them, pointing out it would offer a cost advantage to those operators.

Women seek equal work benefits

NEW YORK, Aug 23, (UPI): Many women want a movement working to secure equal work benefits for them and to equalize the demands of work and family, despite the apparent decline of feminism and the women's movement, a published report said today.

According to a poll taken by the New York Times, released in Tuesday editions, there is support, regardless of class or ideology, for an advocacy group supporting equal pay and a balancing of women's role in the world and family.

Of the 1,025 US women polled, 67 per cent agreed that the United States "continues to need a strong women's movement to push for changes that benefit women," it said.

Only 27 per cent disagreed with such support, the newspaper said.

The poll, which was taken from June 20 to June 25, found poorer respondents have strong differences from those in higher economic brackets.

Those with family incomes over \$35,000 were more likely to consider their work a "career" while those with lesser status just called it a job.

Women who do not work outside the home were less likely to say they "need a women's movement than with outside employment, it said.

Women's groups may be looking to increase their base of support among disenfranchised groups, such as women who stay at home and poorer women, the paper said.

Recent attacks against certain gains for women, including the Supreme Court's decision on abortion and the perceived encroachment of conservative ethics on feminist progress, indicate to some women's rights advocates that they must develop a broader base, the newspaper said.

NYME wins approval

WASHINGTON, Aug 23, (AP): The New York Mercantile Exchange was given permission by federal regulators today to trade futures contracts in residual fuel oil.

The Commodities Futures Trading Commission, which oversees the commodities exchanges and trading in futures options, approved the request unanimously at an open meeting in Washington.

Residual fuel oil is a heavy refined-oil product used primarily for generating electricity and fueling tankers and barges.

Delivery of the product would be limited to an area of the Texas Gulf coast from Lynchburg along the Houston ship channel, including Deer Park, Galena Park and Pasadena, Texas.

The proposed contract calls for delivery of 1,000 barrels of residual fuel oil.

Taiwan buys Fokker 100 aircraft

THE first Rolls-Royce Tay powered Fokker 100 aircraft to be sold in the Far East have been ordered by Taiwan Airlines Company.

The airline has ordered two of the advanced technology 100-seat jetliners for delivery in August and November next year. The aircraft will be powered by two Rolls-Royce Tay 650 turbofans each generating 15,100 lbs thrust.

The Fokker 100 is now in service with, or has been ordered by, 11 operators. As well as the Fokker 100, the Tay also powers the Gulfstream IV executive jet, ordered in quantity throughout the world.



While the Southern belles slumber, Scarlett nips out for a clandestine meeting with Ashley Wilkes.

Revisiting Tara after half a century

Frankly, we do give a damn

By Anne Karpf

IT was a significant adolescent rite of passage, the day I transferred my schoolbag from *Gone With the Wind* to its sardonic Rhett Butler. But not, it seems, a freakish one, when Helen Taylor solicited views and memories about the American novel and film from British and American women, she received more than 400 replies, most testifying to the epic's power and role as a marker of key moments in their lives.

For more than 50 years women have used *Gone With the Wind* (GWTW) as a friend and intimate, a text to support and reflect their experience; and it seems to speak as eloquently to the generation of Margaret Thatcher and Alexis Colby as it did in the days of the bomb shelter and powdered egg.

Both book and film were instantly and hugely successful: the book, published in 1936, sold a million copies in the first six months, and 25 million more since. There are at least 155 editions, in 27 languages, published in 37 countries, and it won author Margaret Mitchell, who never wrote another book, the 1937 Pulitzer Prize. A sequel (by Alexandra Ripley, authorised by Mitchell's estate) is imminent. The film, which premiered in December 1939, has been seen by more people than the entire population of the US! It's been subtitled into 24 languages, dubbed into six, awarded eight Oscars, and is about to be re-released on its 50th anniversary. And shame on the cultural illiterate who doesn't know who said to whom and when: "Frankly, my dear, I don't give a damn."

Helen Taylor, senior lecturer in literary studies at Bristol Polytechnic, was a young fan. She identified with its world of strong, independent women. But a two-year stay in Louisiana as a graduate teacher in 1969, caused her to question its romanticised view of Southern antebellum society, awash with white-columned plantation houses, cotton fields full of happy slaves, and dashing cavaliers beaunched with their flatterers. Her lively book *Scarlett's Women: Gone With the Wind and Its Female Fans* (Virago, £7.99) examines the

GWTW phenomenon both as an inspirational text for women, and an ideological view of race and the American South.

At the hub of GWTW lies Scarlett O'Hara, an unconventional heroine implicitly contrasted with the saintly Melanie Wilkes. Scarlett seems to confound female stereotypes at every turn, even if sometimes by flagrant flirtation. One of Taylor's respondents called Scarlett "perhaps my first 'flawed heroine'"; another saw her as "the first heroine I had read about who was ruthless, scheming and selfish", while a third found GWTW "the first book I ever read in which a woman is not just the 'heroine' but the prime mover of her story, using all the available means to be mistress of her own fate".

Again and again women wrote to her of their admiration for Scarlett's ability, which they themselves lacked, to get what she wants out of life, despite unrequited love, motherless isolation and loss of parent, child, friend, and husband. One reader said that she was "always glad when Scarlett danced when she should have been in mourning" (me too).

Prototype Taylor sees Scarlett as a prototype for the contemporary heroines of Jackie Collins and Barbara Taylor Bradford, a gritty and gutsy survivor who speaks to 1980s professional women, an amoral careerist and scheming entrepreneur whose aspirations are more traditionally masculine than feminine. But she also spoke to the readers and viewers of the 1930s and 1940s, offering hope for surviving the depression and war, and the promise of post-war reconstruction — the return to Tara.

Margaret Mitchell herself had ambivalent feelings towards the norms of femininity. A social flapper and heavy-drinker who dressed in men's trousers, she eschewed traditional Southern female skills like cooking and home decoration, and tried to write for the *Atlanta Journal* about strong, iconoclastic women, drawing a stream of protests. She retreated into marriage, first to a dashing but sexually violent bootlegger, and then to a depend-

able worker with the Georgia Power and Light Company. Unusually, her Scarlett escapes the traditional fate meted out to the uppity woman in the classic Hollywood narrative — restored to her "proper place" or punished for her transgressions by exclusion or death — or the conventional blockbuster happy ending. Instead, Mitchell offered an "open" conclusion — Rhett Butler leaves her, Scarlett plans her return to the family home of Tara — with its will they-won't-they possibility of eventual reunion.

GWTW seems to have always been an almost covert female passion, like an addiction to chocolate. In the 1940s women went to see it in groups armed with sandwiches and flasks of tea. Many have named their children, pets, and houses, after characters and even houses from the film. (At the height of GWTW fever, American women dubbed their triplets *Gone, With and Wind*). Thumbed copies passed between mother and daughter, neutral territory on which they could safely meet. To the first cohort of readers and viewers suffering wartime privation, it offered compensating spectacle: Taylor received letters after letters from women of that generation who never forgot the scene where Tara's green velvet curtains were transformed into an outfit for Scarlett to seduce Rhett Butler into paying Tara's taxes.

But, as Taylor perceptively observes, GWTW differed from the traditional war epic in that it avoided sustained battle scenes. "Occupying centre stage in book and film is the courage not of soldiers but of women... GWTW focuses on the war from the perspective of those left behind: women, children, the old and sick, the wounded and feckless. The romantic image of women in wartime passively waiting is, of course, debunked. The home front, far from being a place of passive endurance and anticipation, is a centre of activity, ingenuity, and creativity." In GWTW, women are forced to take control of all forms of social and economic life — an appealing fictional fantasy for the marginalised and excluded.

Taylor also reads in GWTW an obsessive concern with mothers and daughters:

Scarlett's mother, the patient Ellen O'Hara, dies young, and the film's real maternal figures are Rhett Butler and Mammy, Butler, especially as played by Clark Gable, drew unanimous female adoration from Helen Taylor's correspondents. In addition to his mystery and sexual magnetism, Taylor notes his insight into female psychology, his ability to comfort and nurture women. And, along with most of the women who wrote to her, she argues that Rhett doesn't actually rape Scarlett, as some feminists have claimed, seeing it instead as an encounter of "mutually pleasurable rough sex."

The most unacceptable aspect of *Gone With the Wind* is its depiction of race. Like *Birth of a Nation* (of which Mitchell was a fan), Southern blacks were depicted as simple minded, happy dandies or threats to white women's sexual purity, which was defended by the Ku Klux Klan — prominent in the book, although never mentioned by name in the film, the decision of its liberal Jews producer David Selznick.

Comfort Mammy is the ultimate Earth Mother, a constant source of comfort to Scarlett, with no apparent needs of her own. As Taylor puts it: "The best mother any girl could have, Mammy is intimately, constantly and self-abnegatingly concerned with her charges, never asks anything for herself, refuses to leave after Emancipation, never gets ill and does not die."

Hattie McDaniel, who played her and won the first Oscar given to a black actor, was not invited to the film's all-white premiere. Yet she defended the role, arguing that if she hadn't been playing a maid, and being paid handsomely for it, she would actually have been one. Butterfly McQueen, on the other hand, who played the stupid, squeaky Prissy, had had enough, and refused to repeat the dumb maid role, preferring occasionally to work as a maid.

Despite her rejection of the "moonlight, magnolia, and Mammy" postbellum novel idealising the Old South, Helen Taylor is frank about her own (changing) pleasure in GWTW remains what one radical woman called her "private vice".

Controversial coincidence

Amit's magic wand

IF the release of a film is followed immediately by that of another movie, it becomes a topic of conjecture and controversy. This is more so if both films have the same hero and that too a top hero like Amitabh, whose own future hangs on either of the two films. This strange phenomenon is occurring with *Toofan* and *Jadoogar*, made by rivals Manmohan Desai and Prakash Mehra.

Amit was shooting for both films together, though longer for *Toofan*. Then, he quickly completed *Jadoogar*, too, but made it wait for dubbing. Meanwhile *Toofan* was not found satisfactory, followed by re-shooting etc. But poor Prakash had to wait till the tall hero's pet movie got released.

However Prakash waves off all these arguments with the magic wand used by Amit in *Jadoogar* and says: "There is no dark secret or deep reason. Both films were ready together. In fact, we had decided our release right from the start and did not even know what that chap (Manmohan) was shooting or re-shooting. Later, we were told that *Toofan* is ready first and hence being released."

We asked whether this would affect the long-term chances of his film. "God is great", he said raising his hands, "every film has its own luck. One cannot affect the other, whether before or after. It is a coincidence which has happened not once but four times before. My *Muqaddar Ka Sikandar* came just after *Amar Akbar Anthony*, *Lavaris* after *Naseeb*, *Namak Halaal* after *Desh Premee* and *Sharabi* after *Coolie*. You know the results of all."

This may provide a clue as to why Amitabh, desperate for success, chose this mode of release for the two new films. Moreover, it's a clever strategy. If the first film clicks, the second gets an additional boost and in case the first does not, then the following film acts as a second chance and a safeguard. The hope is that both won't fail. What makes the present situation dicey is that Amitabh plays a magician in both films. Will it not harm Prakash's film by reputation, since it comes after *Toofan*?

"My magician is quite different" says Prakash

proudly. "A man who innocently performs on stage is called a 'jadooogar' but one who performs 'miracles' by the same magic becomes a 'sadhu mahatma'. I want to expose this difference". The film has villain Amrish Puri, a small trader, turning into one of those "babas" who is worshipped in a village. He spreads his wings and gets disciples from foreign countries to enter his "ashram". He impresses people by his tricks.

His son returns from USA with a degree and a girlfriend, but hates the old man's viles. So he employs hero Amitabh, a small-time magician to show the same tricks and tear the godly mask from Puri's face. He has to oppose the whole village for this. And when he succeeds, they think he is the second "mahatma" and want him to occupy the same throne. But he runs away from all this.

Aaditya plays the son with Amrita Singh as his girl, while Jaya Prada is Amitabh's beloved. Aaditya's role was once being played by Vinod Khanna and then by Mithun. But both backed out. Two new girls Amita Nangia and Priyanka are also being introduced in the film. He sings songs, of course still dominates the film. He sings songs, too, like "Padosi apni murgi ko rakha sambhal" in his own peculiar voice, on the lines of the "Laawaris" hit "Mere angane mein".

Kalyanji — Anandji have turned out unusual songs for *Jadoogar*, though only five, including "Naseeb meri Radha" written by Prakash Mehra himself. "Main Jadooogar" the title song and "Kya samjhen aap ko" which is a hilarious parody of old films. Against this, the *Toofan* songs composed by Annu Malik become gimmicky, like "Jadooogar ka jadu" addressed to children like "Ek kissa suno" in the old "Natwarla" "Aaya toofan bhaga shaitan". "Aao raas rache" and a shameless copy of the Caribbean pop song "Don't worry, be happy" sung by Amitabh himself, in which he also attacks video — TV and persuades people to come to the theatres.

It all shows a desperate attempt to play all the "tricks" in the book to regain lost popularity.

Dimple: hopeful

- Q. Since we met last, you have signed some more films. Why the change?
- A. There are some important directors you just can't refuse. Anyway, I don't have so many films on the floor.
- Q. But the Film Producers' Combine has put you on the list of forty stars, with whom no new film can be started by any producer.
- A. I know. But there is a difference. Some stars have many *Chhoti-moti* films, which are shooting in bits regularly. And others have big set-ups which shoot with pre-fixed dates. The latter category cannot be called over-committed, since we meet all our commitments in turns.
- Q. In which of your coming films do you have great hopes?
- A. Not great. But one looks forward to films like *Lekin*, *Haq*, *Ajooba*, *Zooni*....
- Q. You have taken up *Haq* as a challenge, again?
- A. Yes. It is a subject after my heart... women's rights and their fight against male oppression. Mahesh Bhatt is writing it, though he is very busy. His associate Harish Bhoosle is directing. The Mulichannel video people are producing.
- Q. You have agreed to act with new hero Asif and a supporting cast of Sonu Walia, Anupam Kher, Paresh Rawal etc. in *Haq*.
- A. Yes. That's how a film can be a heroine-oriented or woman-oriented. If there are talented artists in the cast and the subject has got the power, then the film would surely turn out successful.
- Q. In other words you are the hero of such a film?
- A. Ultimately the director is the hero of every good film and the story is of course "the thing". But it's good fun. I have worked with the best of directors, so one can make out the difference.
- Q. Still, you have also worked in several mindless films. Why?
- A. You can call them formula films, which also call for a lot of 'mind'. I took a risk doing them. I had to earn and stabilise my name. I did not care for positive — negative roles. In fact, even in those films, I tried to change the old heroine image.



Star slips

Pallavi Joshi: If a man can have two wives, why can't a woman have two husbands?

Deepika: Neena Gupta's is an individual case (being an unwed mother). I for one would never ever get into a situation like that.

Sadhna: We have Krishna (Raj)

Kapoor and Jaya Bachchan. They considered their husbands like "Pati Parmeshwar". And the faith paid off. Their men did come back to them.

Mithun: One can't be married to two women at the same time. When one wife is difficult to

keep, who would want the tensions of having two?

Anjad Khan: Today people don't know what are scruples. They think it means screw — people.

Anil Kapoor: If a film has a story that goes radically against my morals, I will not accept it.

VIDEO CORNER

Side-splitting slapstick and sentimentality

Having fun with eccentrics

By Sham Seekins

CONTINUING the recent trend of re-working successful French comedies *Three Men and a Cradle* for example took America by storm. The producers have now come up with the same essential mixture of smaltz, pathos and comedy, with the emphasis on the former in *Three Fugitives*. This time Touchstone have gone one step further by having the original French director Francis Verber to rework his own film, *Les Fugitifs*.

Though he has perhaps, oversentimentalised it for American movie-goers, Verber has at least kept the first half going at a fair clip that should have the audience chuckling along nicely. The story follows Lucas (Nick Nolte), veteran of 14 major bank robberies, as he is released from prison after five years inside. Although he vows to old nemesis detective Dugan (James Earl Jones), that he will go straight, Dugan is convinced otherwise.

Hence the difficulties when a robbery happens as Lucas is innocently opening a bank account. With several dozen police weapons aimed at him, Lucas is unable to explain that he is the hostage of inept robber Perry (Martin Short).

After the set-up and some side-splitting slapstick routines the story gets very sentimental as Lucas assists the hapless Perry in his quest to save his mute daughter from becoming a ward of court. Naturally little Meg is adorable and turns the hardened Lucas into a teddy bear buying softee.

The humour picks up again as Short dons a wig and woman's clothing to cross over into Canada. He plays the comedy scenes well even if some of them tend to be a bit violent, his

little girl is lovely and Nolte is clumsily appealing, none more so when wounded and greeted by an eccentric vet with the immortal words: "Poor little rabbit, did the naughty hunters get you?"

Dead Bang

After a string of forgettable films since his last decent movie *French Connection II* in 1976, director John Frankenheimer returns to something near his best form with *Dead Bang*, a tough conspiracy thriller. Like *French Connection II*, this deals with a worldwide, but obsessive, cop whose mercurial behaviour is almost as questionable as that of the villain.

Apparently based on the real-life case of a still active Los Angeles cop, rumpold Don Johnson (clearly trying hard to shake off the designer image of Miami Vice) stars as homicide detective Jerry Beck.

Tiny

In between fighting a court order to restrain him from seeing his two daughters and trying to cope with increasing debts, Beck is saddled with a callous double killing involving a black store manager and a fellow cop. Some nifty computer work leads him towards thuggish parolee Bobby Burns (Frank Stallone) who it transpires is part of a roving gang of white supremacists.

The trail takes Beck away from the city's familiar mean streets into the wide open spaces of Arizona and Colorado where, finally he catches up with Burns and the gang but there is still a good twist in the tale.

Johnson is excellent as Beck and, in no more than tiny cameos so are Bob Balaban as a put upon parole officer and Penelope Ann

Miller as the vengeful widow of the murdered cop.

It is hard not to enjoy pictures about eccentric and oddballs whose visual and verbal malapropisms seem to lend themselves to the medium. Howard Zeiff's *The Dream Team* is no less enjoyable because its eccentrics are from a sanitarium.

Cinematic cousins to the heroes in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, the dream team consists of four New Jersey mental patients who are treated to a New York City field trip by their psychiatrist (Dennis Hopper) though they are viewed by other doctors as incurable, he feels that a trip to Yankee stadium will at least give them some happy memories.

Unfortunately, when one of them has to make a lavatory stop, the doctor is beaten and left unconscious by some crooked cops and the team has to fend for itself.

During the next two days each man has to face up to a bid of sanity in order to service and prevent their doctor being "silenced" in hospital.

Michael Keaton plays team leader Billy Caulfield. Though elaborate fantasies and violent outbursts resulted in his being in the sanitarium, it is his force that holds the team together when the going gets tough.

The picture's merits rests mainly on the shoulders of the four inmates. Keaton fans will not find him as expansive as he was in *Beetlejuice*, but he plays his usual cute and cheeky guy routine with gusto. For the others each offers his own brand of quirkiness, with ex advertising executive Peter Boyle the stand-out.

The above movies are by courtesy of VFL, Fintas/Farwanja; Video Nani, Salmiya, Tel: 2432809; and Video Club, Tel: 5624372.



'Three Fugitives'. — infallible ingredients of comedy, pathos, and schmalz.

Pied Piper of rock

By Johnson Gilbert

IF ever there was a band beset by paradox, Jethro Tull is it. In a medium where gimmicks are the norm, the group's success has always come from the music itself — and yet, in the wild-eyed, one-legged flute player Ian Anderson has created one of the strongest images in the rock world.

The content of the music is intelligent, analytical, even cerebral — and yet there is a constant thread of self-deprecating and often vulgar humour running through every album and stage presentation.

Over the years, Jethro Tull have become ever more eclectic, drawing on all kinds of musical sources, from jazz and blues to folk and classical and yet, their music has an instant recognisable identity.

They are often written off by a fickle music press as "too old to rock 'n' roll" — yet each new album and tour produce a new generation of fans.

They maintain a very low media profile — and yet all over the world their concerts sell out.

Whatever the paradoxes, the ultimate reason for their success over the last 20 years is their music. It's evolved and progressed, it's never stood still, and it's always been superb.

20 years of *Jethro Tull* is a collection of some of their best songs. From the early late sixties releases like 'To Be Sad is a Mad Way to Be' to the more recent 'Budapest', Jethro Tull proves that their music has stood the test of time, changing musical styles and fashion.

Ian Anderson is probably the only person to use a flute to good effect in rock. He is not only a performer but also an entertainer as can be seen in such conceptual videos like "Too Old to Rock 'n' Roll", "Jump Start" and "Heavy Horses".

Jethro Tull has not had much publicity or media coverage. Therefore, this video is an excellent opportunity for the fans to finally get to know their heroes as it also contains archive videos, TV footage interviews of band members and fans and informative commentary on the group.

Running time 80 mts. approx.

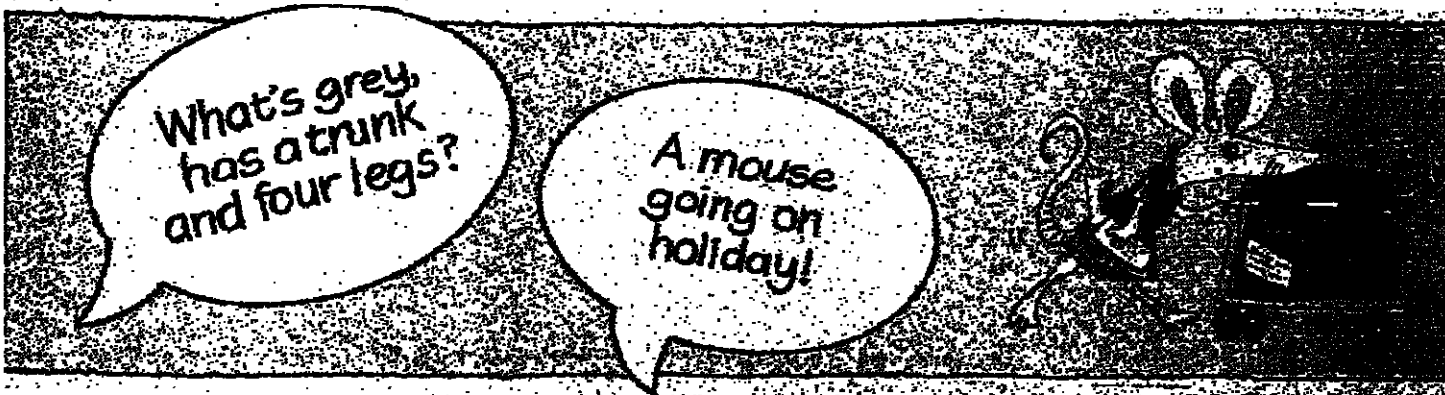
Girls Girls Girls 2

Girls Girls Girls 2 is the follow-up to *Girls Girls Girls* (also available at the Video Club), a compilation of non-stop dance party videos. It features some of the top female pop artists including Samantha Fox, Sinitta, Joyce Simms, etc.

This finely-selected dance compilation is the perfect solution to a dull moment at your next party. Excellent picture clarity is one of the features of this compilation.

Running time 46 mts. approx.

Music videos available at The Video Club, Salmiya Tel: 5724372.



Amazing facts

Mark Twain made a fortune as a writer but lost it as an unsuccessful inventor.

A Hindu cannot be expelled from his religion no matter what he does in his lifetime.

The Dead Sea is actually a lake 45 miles long and 10 miles wide. This salt body of water is 1,300 feet below sea level and is the lowest spot on the surface of the earth.

There are an estimated 4,600,000 cats in Britain (100,000 of them employed by the Civil Service.)

Ned Kelly, an Australian highwayman, executed in 1880, always wore a suit of armour beaten out of ploughshares.

Indian women of the San Blas tribe of Panama, paint black lines on their noses to make them appear longer.

The citizens of Uruguay eat more meat per person than any other nation. They average nearly 11 lbs each per day.

Beethoven composed three sonatas when he was thirteen.

A Belgian pulled a 36-ton train along rails with his teeth.

The game of tennis originated in French monasteries in the year 1050 A.D.

Hetty Green of New York left £19 million when she died in 1916, but was so mean she saved piece of soap in a tin and lived on cold porridge because she was too miserly to heat it.

Barry's Barnyard



● Barry had just found 6 new puppies in the barn. He already had 7 in the yard. How many puppies are there in all?

● There were 19 kittens in the barn, too. He gave 7 away during the day. How many were left?

● Daisy, the cow, sleeps in the afternoon. She sleeps from 1 o'clock until 5 o'clock. How many hours does she sleep?

● Mrs James buys her eggs from Barry at 10c each. On Monday she bought 6. Tuesday she bought 5, and Wednesday she bought 3. How much did she pay for the eggs?

● Barry's horse gallops to the mailbox 3 times a day with Barry on her back. The mailbox is 2 miles from the corral. How far do they gallop each day?

● There are 7 baby chicks on the farm. Each chick eats 2 worms for breakfast. How many worms are eaten in all?

● Barry checks the chicken coop for fresh eggs. There are 5 nests each containing 3 eggs. How many eggs will Barry collect today?

Birthday coupon

Is your birthday to come soon?
Are you a regular reader of the Junior Times?
Well, now is the chance to let your friends know that it is your birthday!
Or maybe you would like to surprise your best friend, brother or sister by putting their picture in for them.
The details we need are:

Name: _____
Date of birth: _____
School: _____
Hobbies: _____
Telephone: _____
(confidential)

Send to:
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P.O. Box 2270
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Kuwait
To avoid belated greetings please send within a week before the special date

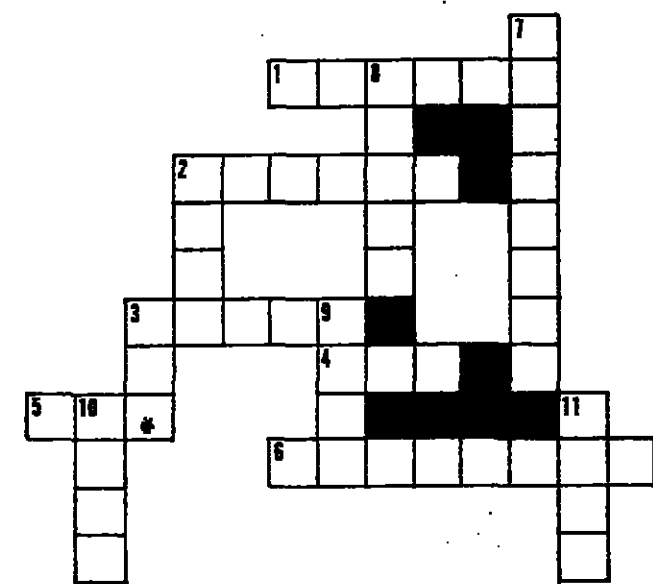
Your favourite most recent picture (4x6)

Colouring time

This cottage is featured in many, many fairytales. Can you mention a few? Think hard and careful before answering.



The Aardvark-Facts and Inferences



Directions: Answer the questions to complete the puzzle.

- Across →
1. The aardvark lives on what continent?
 2. An aardvark usually has more than one.
 3. A baby aardvark is independent at _____ months.
 4. How many babies does an aardvark have at a time?
 5. An aardvark sleeps during the _____.
 6. The aardvark's main food.

- Down ↓
2. What an aardvark can't do.
 3. Why an aardvark spends so much time in his burrow.
 7. What the word aardvark means.
 8. An aardvark's teeth lack enamel and _____.
 9. The body part that most resembles the pig.
 10. What an aardvark can't eat.
 11. In the story, "limbs" means

Going to school

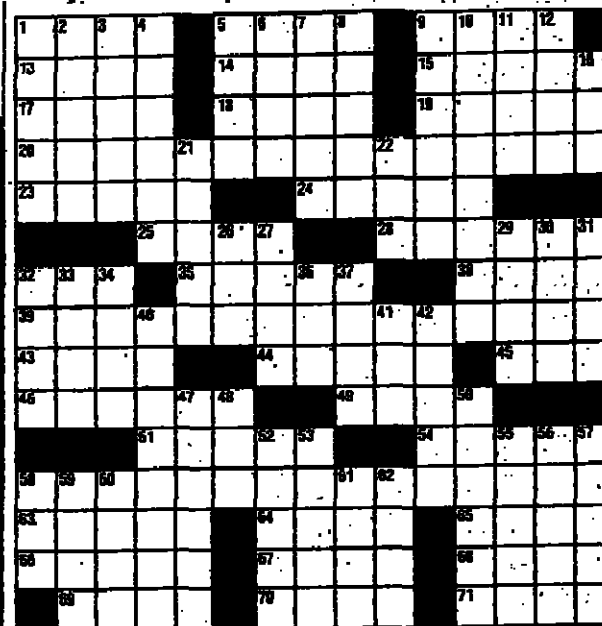
Are you going to school for the first time? You must be really excited. Send the coupon to us and celebrate your first day at school with all of your fellow readers. Just fill in the information required and the address is as always!

Name: _____
Nationality: _____
Age: _____
School: _____
What you want to be when you grow up: _____
Telephone number: _____
(Confidential)

Favourite 4 x 6 photograph

ARAB TIMES
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Kuwait

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Blind part
 - 5 Musical partner of Oates
 - 9 Appearance
 - 13 Marcel
 - 14 Marceau, e.g.
 - 15 Pernicious
 - 16 Support, in architecture
 - 17 Willow genus
 - 18 Singer Horne
 - 19 Thin narrow channel
 - 20 Judicial body
 - 23 Roll call replies
 - 24 Pythias' friend
 - 25 Ruffian
 - 28 Small bone of the inner ear
 - 32 Charlotte of TV
 - 35 Gnar away
 - 38 Vehicle for Danny DeVito
 - 39 Cabinet member
 - 43 Resident of Bulgaria
 - 44 Notational sign, for Multi
 - 45 Beginner's Latin verb
 - 46 "A Midsummer Night's Dream" role
 - 49 Playground
 - 51 Late night show, at times
 - 54 Charlie Chaplin role
 - 58 Attorneys
- DOWN
- 1 Worker in any metal
 - 2 Willowy
 - 3 Oriental ruler
 - 4 Selection of china
 - 5 One of the Beatles' films
 - 6 Prove to be true
 - 7 Like some writing paper
 - 8 Andes animal
 - 9 The Army mule, for one
 - 10 Utter
 - 11 Light color
 - 12 Bet in a casino
 - 16 One of the Turners
 - 21 Member of the wedding
 - 22 North Sea feeder
- ACROSS
- 26 Subject of a Keats ode
 - 27 "Anything -" Cole Porter
 - 29 State in N Brazil
 - 30 Bane of a student
 - 31 Where to store grain
 - 32 Headstrong
 - 33 Salt tree
 - 34 Common Latin abbr.
 - 36 Change the color
 - 37 Like an omelet
 - 40 Projection of the jaw
 - 41 Former Queen of Spain
 - 42 Actress Sheree
 - 47 Necessary
 - 48 Airport abbr.
 - 50 Aspirations
 - 52 According to habit
 - 53 - Dame figure
 - 55 Monastery
 - 56 River to the Seine
 - 57 Transparent body
 - 58 Gullet of a bird
 - 59 Namesakes of a Stowe heroine

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHAWA
IT PAYS OFF IN THE END

North-South vulnerable: South enough in reserve to make the slam try of four clubs - any time you move from a game contract to a minor part score, you must be strong; if not, why not pass (large no trump)? North's acceptance was based on prime cards in the unbid suits and help for both of South's suits.

Tommy perforce won the opening lead, and successfully finessed the jack of clubs. When East discarded a diamond on the king of clubs, declarer's interest was definitely aroused. The king and ace of hearts were cashed, and a heart ruff set up two long cards in the suit. Everything was ready for the throw-in play.

Ace and another club gave West the lead, and no matter what then worthy opted to do it would have been of assistance to declarer. Since a diamond lead would have put declarer in dummy with the king, West tried a spade. Tommy didn't falter. He put up the queen and, when it won, he had all the discards he needed on dummy's red-suit winners. The only trick the defenders made was the queen of trumps, and Tommy's team gained 12 International Match Points for bidding and making the slam.

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass
4 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠
For Trump Coup Tommy, the highlight of his bridge year, came when he was invited to represent his club in the intricacy league. His penchant to play well only when trumps broke badly usually cost the team a bundle of points, but on hands that suited his peculiar talent, the team sometimes gained more than enough to compensate.
For once, Tommy bid his hand reasonably well. When North showed a good hand by jumping to three no trump, Tommy felt he had

60 Drudge House pet
61 One-time White 62 Horse god

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
SPRING PEA PIAT
PLATTER APSE HORA
PURSE LIPS ATOM
METEOR CST RAISE
TABU EASTERN
MOTH BAR ECHO
ALCOOP SELMA ERA
DENTIST ASSAYER
EGG BLESS EVENT
UYEA ASS ESTE
SPEARS TOOL
HUTS HOI LESLIE
ALLIE EARSOFCORN
USES DREL TOPIC
NIED SST SITIENO

THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will have spent more than you had intended and will have to do more frugal. You will be able to do something to your liking but do not exaggerate. Try to avoid inviting adverse comment. Be fair.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

Your efforts will not always be appreciated, but never mind you will be able to live better with yourself. Do not be late for an appointment traffic delays are no excuse. Make sure you do not eat anything you like but you know does not agree with you. Be frugal.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Do not think you can do in a few moments what previously took a lot longer than that. However, you will be able to do things more quickly because you have practiced doing them. There is room for a little more optimism. Be attentive.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan 19)

One thing at a time is better than a little of a lot of things. You will not realize until later how lucky you really have been. For yourself, family first and foremost. Be courteous.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Do not confuse what is with what is not important as you are liable to. Listen more closely to what others are saying. Something you have done will not turn out to have been for the best. Be tactful.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will be able to do something you have long wanted to do. Your lucky numbers are 18 and 33. You must resist a temptation to spend more than you can afford. Avoid exaggerations and stick to proper limits. Be magnanimous.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Something you thought would be extremely difficult will not be quite so bad as you thought. You should listen to what others are saying and take their view into account. Do not expect others always to have your best interests in mind. Be sincere.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You should not allow yourself to live in the past. Now is the best point in regretting what might have been; too late for that. You should not be against change but it is a change just for the sake of change. Be reasonable.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will have to be really quick about it but not at the expense of accuracy. You should try to be a little more impartial instead of showing favoritism. Do not do anything that would hurt someone close to you. Be tolerant.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

If you copy from someone else make sure you give acknowledgements and have permission. Do ensure you have read the instructions carefully before you use a new device. Have a good laugh at yourself. Be moderate.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Make sure you do not do or omit to do anything that would displease your partner. You will have a lot to do and must not allow yourself to be distracted. You should make sure you do not break any promises, cost what it may. Be resilient.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to alter your working methods in a way that will lead to excellent results. Do not expect others always to be on your side. Do not delay paper work particularly where an electrical device is concerned. Be considerate.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

For Rent

SABAH Al Salem near 6th Ring Road. New 2-storey villa: 4 bedrooms with cupboards, 3 open halls, fitted kitchen, servants' quarter, 4 bathrooms. Rent KD500. Tel. 5324848. (AT5-48914-3)

SALWA, Area 12, Bldg 79, opp KAC Club, CAC flat with 5 bedrooms, kitchen, large saloon, in a deluxe building with swimming pool. Rent with electricity and water. Tel. George, 5639210. (AT6-48948-3)

SALWA, Area 1, Street 100, Building 84, near the Carmel School, flat with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, hall, saloon and dining room. Tel. 9018073, 4849547, 5747444. (AT4-48900-3)

QORTUBA, 3rd Street, Block 4, House No. 536, new villa, two floors, basement including a mulhaq, central AC, suitable for an embassy. Mr Hesham, 5337936. (AT6-48939-3)

Available

KUWAIT City, Murgab, near the Burhani Markaz and Masjid Abdullah Mubarak. Sharing accommodation for a Daoudi Bohra Couple. Tel. 2411641. (AT5-48893-3)

SALMIYA, Baghdad Street. Accommodation in a flat for a small family or 2 good working girls' to share with a family. Tel. Borri Kumar, 5625811, 5625769, 4-8 pm. (AT4-48896-2)

KUWAIT City, behind Muthahida Complex above Miami Restaurant. Accommodation in a spacious room for bachelors, couple or a family to share with a family from 1st September. Tel. Morin, 2424444. (AT4-48896-2)

KUWAIT City, Sharq, opp Behbehani Car showroom, Hila Muthairi Building. Large room in a mulhaq for a RC family or 2 bachelors. Rent KD75 with W/E. Contact Mr John, 4-8 pm only. (AT5-48917-3)

KUWAIT City, near the GPO. Room furnished/unfurnished in a spacious flat with kitchen facilities for a couple or bachelors. Tel. 3728152, 6-9 pm. (AT4-48905-2)

SHARQ, behind the Firdous Cinema, near Qoraya Saloon, House No. 126, 2 rooms in a mulhaq, available with electricity and water, for a family only. Rent KD 80. Tel. Arsan Essa. (AT5-48942-2)

KUWAIT City, behind the Sheraton. Sharing accommodation for a couple or bachelors, to share with a Filipino family. Tel. 2404790, 9 am - 1 pm, 4-9 pm. (AT6-48937-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharq behind the Firdous Cinema, Villa No. 142. One room for a family or 2 working girls. Contact Salom Goraya, Tel. 2404285. (AT6-48932-3)

KUWAIT City, opp. Al Muthanna Complex. Sharing accommodation in a CAC flat on a permanent or temporary basis for working girls or a couple. Tel. 2421043, 043, 044, 059, 12.30 - 1.30 pm, 7.30 - 8.30 pm. (AT5-48911-3)

FOR SALE

Cars

HONDA Accord 1984, dark blue, automatic, AC, 4 doors, sunroof, insured upto May 1990, 61,000 kms, one owner, in excellent condition. KD1400 cash or installments. Tel. 9035881. (AT5-48931-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt '82, manual, AC, 67000 kms, golden in good condition. KD380. Tel. 5389480, after 4 pm. (AT4-48907-3)

GALANT Super Saloon '86 fully automatic, black, sunroof, lady owned, in very good condition. KD1550, cash KD1000, instalment, KD540 KD27 per month. Tel. 5746380 after 6 pm. (AT4-48926-3)

MERCEDES 280 S 1984, offwhite, with grey interior, full options, in excellent condition. Highest offer. Tel. 5744017/8. (AT5-48945-3)

TOYOTA Cressida GL 1981, white, automatic, AC, 77,000 kms, insured upto Feb 1990, in very good condition, KD950, cash or installments. Tel. 5653952. (AT5-48929-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant Super Saloon 1986, automatic, white, AC, 4 doors, 51,000 kms, insured upto July 1990, one owner, in excellent condition, KD1600. Tel. 2401908. (AT5-48943-3)

PORSCHE 911 Turbo, 1983 model, 300 HP, in excellent condition. Tel. 4835820, off. 5639093, res. (Friday) (AT6-48951-3)

HYUNDAI Prima, 1988, bought in March 1989, automatic, black, 23,000 kms. Owner will pay the cost for testing the car by the agency. Tel. 5633781. (AT6-48965-2)

Furniture

SOFA set, 3-seater + 1+1, in excellent condition. Also some other furniture for sale. Tel. 5617932. (AT6-48934-2)

Miscellaneous

VARIOUS household furniture and electrical items in very good condition available for sale. Tel. 4837158. (AT5-48927-3)

2-BEDROOM flat for sale in Salmiya, behind the Mowasat Hospital, along with contents. Price KD1,500 ono. New rent KD130. Tel. Mohd Said, 4842568, 7.30 am - 1 pm, 5759513, 5.30 - 9 pm. (AT4-48891-3)

MANGAF, 2 bedroom CAC flat with saloon fully furnished for sale. Rent KD125. Tel. 3716884. (AT5-48902-2)

SOFA set 3+1+1 KD40, dressing table with big mirror KD25, Divan KD15, household items. All are in excellent condition. Tel. 4315561 anytime. (AT6-48935-2)

FURNITURE and electrical appliances of a flat consisting of two bedrooms and a lounge. Tel. 3925416, after 3 pm. (AT6-48941-2)

LATEST JVC video camera recorder GF450 VHS/Pal, recently purchased. Company replaced impaired zoom lens with new one. Barely used. Tel. Mr Khan, 3723510, 4-7 pm. (AT6-48861-1)

SALMIYA, Amman Street. Complete household furniture and kitchenware of a one bedroom flat for sale. New rent KD110. Can be sold separately. Tel. 5652378, 8-11 am, 4-6 pm. (AT5-48943-3)

BED settee KD25, Ikea wardrobes KD15 each, bookcases KD5, each desk KD4, bathroom shelves, KD4, Plant stand, KD3, dining table, 4 chairs, KD25. Tel. 4733362 any time. (AT5-48915-3)

ELECTRIC bass guitar (Japanese made) KD30, 3 pcs stereo system with speakers (Denon, Marantz-Technics) KD140, Amiga 1000 computer (Arabic kit) Tel. Mr. Berthia, 2420908, 10.30 am - 1.30 pm. (AT4-48910-3)

HOUSEHOLD contents, washing machine, cooker, kitchen utensils, Form Arabia sofa sets, dining table and chairs, curtains, plants. British family leaving Kuwait. Tel. 5389173 after 2.30 pm. (AT5-48924-3)

SERVICES

Baby Sitting

AVAILABLE on weekend only for European families in Kuwait City area. Tel. Linda, 2561467. (AT6-48953-3)

AVAILABLE with an Indian lady in Kuwait city. Tel. Mr Gomes, 2438800 ext 555, and Leave message from 4 - 12 am. (AT4-48904-3)

Tuition

AVAILABLE in maths, physics and chemistry O'level, A'level and higher classes (Std IX to Std XII) behind GPO in Kuwait City. Tel. 2422246. (AT5-48903-3)

AVAILABLE for pre-school training of young children upto 4 years, given by a qualified Indian. Tel. 5618739, 9 am - 2 pm, 5-9 pm. (AT6-48936-3)

KINDERGARTEN/NURSERY for pre-schools 2-1/2 years and above given by an experienced graduate teacher in Salmiya near the Indian School. Tel. 5656832. (AT5-48916-3)

PRE-SCHOOL training available for children, 3 years and above, given by a graduate teacher, behind the Junior School, Salmiya. (Recently shifted). Tel. 5632187. (AT6-48913-3)

Transport

TRANSPORT available in Salmiya area, only for Indian School children, both shifts, 3-8 pm. Tel. Valley, 5627309. (AT6-48958-3)

REQUIRED from Salmiya to Shuwaikh and back at 8 am - 1 pm, 4-6 pm. Tel. 5640341. (AT5-48928-2)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MAID required Filipino for an English family in Bayan. Must speak English and have a transferable residence. Tel. 5395767. (AT4-48898-3)

Wanted

SECRETARY/computer operator. Indian, highly experienced with knowledge of accounts, telex and all office routines, seeks employment immediately. Tel. 2418158, 9 am - 1 pm. (AT4-48906-3)

FRENCH family leaving Kuwait, wish to place their excellent Indian maid with a European or American family. Required visa transferable and accommodation for husband. Tel. 5389480. (AT4-48897-3)

LOST

PASSPORT No. B 551576, in the name of D'Sa Antony Charles, Indian. Finder please tele. 2414555. (AT6-48947-2)

Apartments for rent

Available apartments for rent in the following areas: Salmiya — Maidan Hawail — Hawail — Jabriya — Fintas Call Tel. 2466300 ext. 1102 and 1101 morning only

REAL ESTATE OFFER

flats for sale at GARDEN ESTATE, Nalasupara (West) For details contact: AL ABDEEN: 241-8469 (Souk Al Safat) Open also Friday evening

BLACK purse containing Civil Identity card and driving licence in the name of Mr Hussein Mulla Al Mohammed. Finder please Tel. 4832280, 4841083, 7 am - 5 pm, 2547243, Res. (AT5-48912-2)

MISCELLANEOUS

INTERESTED in keeping contact with parents of children with speech disorders and hard of hearing? Parties of Asian origin contact Mrs Basheer. Tel. 5612784. (AT6-48944-3)

PETS

3 MALE Persian cats, one white, 3 months old; two grey, one year old. All are vaccinated, good with children, for sale, KD80 each. (AT6-48946-3)

WANTED

TRAINER experienced with dogs. Need to train 5 months old German shepherd. References and interview required. Promising fee. Tel. Taymour, 045 2445 111 ext 187, off 045 2619 878 after 8 pm. (AT5-48900-3)

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Villas, half villas, flats, complete buildings, offices in all areas in Kuwait with or without swimming pool

Qatar Real Estate Tel. 2406592, 2406593

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Door-to-Door Service by Sea and Air Contact Baby Canada Dry Tel. 4847837, 4817708, 4837850

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Mga Kababayan, kami po ay nag-iingat sa inyo ng SAMPAGUITA, MATATAG, MABUHAY at MAYNOS na serbisyo ng Pangangalakal at Paghimpapawid na kagamitan ng Para-patungo sa atin ng pangit na PILIPINAS. Ang laing tagapaghatid 240-08-83

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484-6009

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FOR RENT

Villas, half villas and flats with swimming pool Tel: 2401908 - 2407677 2403260 The All Real Estate

REQUIRED A COOK

having experience in Kuwaiti preparations for a Kuwaiti family. Accommodation provided. Salary in accordance with experience. Must have transferable residence. Call Tel. 3904271 from 6.00 - 10.00 pm

FOR RENT

Villa in Dahiyat Abdullah Al Salem Deluxe finishing — excellent location — telephone with 6 lines and 8 internal extensions — central A/C. Good for an embassy or diplomat's residence. Call Tel. 2408445, 2425750.

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Computer Course

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Then transfer to one of the following fully accredited Universities:

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- Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida, U.S.A.
- Medical University of Debrecen, Hungary.

For further information please call: Majdalawi University Services, Kuwait Tel: 2428895/6

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Are you having difficulty finding something you want? If it exists CAS will find it. Ring for help: 2409686/4. GIVE IT A TRY Fax: 2409685.

REQUIRED Female tailors

having at least three years experience in design and tailoring for full or part time job. Please write to: P.O. Box 6187, Hawail 32038 Kuwait

FOR SALE Waterbed Mattress

direct from U.S.A., at very discounted prices. Mattress includes fill kit, patch kit and heater. Tel: 5719568 after 7.30 pm

REQUIRED Diesel Mechanic Helper

Must have experience, must speak English. Responsible person, with transferable visa. Contact Tel: 4742105, 9 am to 5 pm.

I'm still waiting for my shipment... I should have called Alghanim...

No one does it better. The biggest IATA Freight agent in Kuwait.

Alghanim

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Customer Services Tel. 4745533

Fahadhel 3923496/8 - Sharq 2460672/3 Murgab 2412896/2416881

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Registration still open for 2-4 year-old kids at the nursery's premises.

In Yarmouk — Block 1 — 2nd Street — Road 1 — Building 18 — Behind Laila Al Qurashiya Intermediate School for girls.

Also required British or American female teachers for English language

Tel. 5337902, Al Yarmouk Nursery — managed by a Kuwaiti administration adopting English language.

Note: Transportation available

شركة النقيب وخطار W.I.I.

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Avoid excess luggage charges Airfreight it!

484-6009

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STUDIO AL-MOAMEN Tel: 2439400-2408378

Dalya Nursery

is pleased to announce to all parents and guardians the commencement of work in

The Private Model Nursery Managed by specialised experts in education and children care

Registration in the nursery is open from 20/8/1989 for the new academic year.

For more information please call Tel: 5734860

Salmiya — Khansa St. — Beside Al Dinar Cafeteria

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SMALL KD 3.250	MED 3.500
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AL MUTAWA BLDG., BEHIND SOUK AL KABEER TEL NOS: 2433552 - 2433301

For your advertisement

Please contact Advertising Department

Tel: 4816326/4816327

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یہاں سے عرب مائیں کے خصوصی نمائندے فیوزر جیٹن والی رپورٹ

ایک روز کی صبح غم کے ساتھ ہمارے

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

ابھی ملائی اور ملائی سے لوگوں پر رعب جماتا ہے اس کیلئے ہم کو سے ڈر کے لئے کئی کئی دھڑت کے ساتھ لڑنا ہے۔ یہ سب پہنچا ہی ان ترکیوں سے سخت حرکت ہے چنانچہ ایک حسین درج کے چادر اور کچھ کا نظام مرگ کا کچھ ملائیں کہ ڈر سے امریش ہوئی ہے کہ یہ بڑے بڑے بھگوانوں کے کھمب کو آکر جھٹکے گئے کہ لکھتے ہیں کام میں اسے کھوں دلاؤں گی چھٹک کا سامان بنا رہے ہیں جن میں اسے کام میں حاصل ہوئی ہے تو لوگ اسے بھگوان کا دورا رہتے ہیں کہ اس میں جسے خط لکھا ہے جس کا نام

[illegible][illegible]

جہاں کے پچیس برس میں ان کی واپسی کا فیصلہ ہوا ہے۔

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بہن شہزادہ کو تو یہ عرب ایک کچھلے فاقہ پر گرا کر اپنی عرب سرکار کا

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محمد سکندر بے خیر کے شوہر اکرم زہرا اری کے قریبی دوست جان کے جانتے ہیں

سیاحین قلعہ پر پاک بھارت

نہ فریب، نہ افراہ ہلاک کر دے گئے

[illegible]

آسٹریلیا میں ایشیائی تارکین وطن کی

معلومات کے حصول کے لیے ایسی ایکسٹرنل سروسز کے استعمال سے 1994ء میں 100 فیصد اضافہ ہوا۔

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۱۔ یہاں پر ایک اور عجیب و غریب واقعہ پیش آیا۔ ایک شخص نے ایک اور شخص کو مار مار کر ہلاک کر دیا۔
 ۲۔ یہاں پر ایک اور عجیب و غریب واقعہ پیش آیا۔ ایک شخص نے ایک اور شخص کو مار مار کر ہلاک کر دیا۔
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 ۱۰۔ یہاں پر ایک اور عجیب و غریب واقعہ پیش آیا۔ ایک شخص نے ایک اور شخص کو مار مار کر ہلاک کر دیا۔

لندن میں پاکستانی پائلٹ خاتون
فوجی اہلکاروں کے ساتھ مل کر

کھٹ آباد ہو گیا جس میں ۳۳۹ افراد و خواتین شامل انتظامیہ کے علاوہ شاہکاروں کے چالیس خاندانوں کے تھے جنہیں حکومت کی ذمہ داری تھی۔ یہ خاندانوں کو پہلے تو قریبی علاقوں میں رکھا گیا تھا مگر بعد میں ان کو قریبی علاقوں سے دور کر دیا گیا۔

بلوچستان کے وزیر اعلیٰ اکبر بگٹی نے فرمایا کہ ۲۳ اگست (عرب ہائپر ریڈ) بلوچستان کے

[illegible]

جنگ ۱۳ اگست (راولپنڈی) میں کمران پولیس سٹیشن کے سینٹر
 وکٹس ملنگ چمک سے ملک میں حالیہ بے امنی کا اظہار پائی اور
 کراچی پولیس کے ایک ایجنٹ نے ایک ایجنٹ کو قتل کر دیا۔

مذہبی ہے کہ کیسٹن ہائی کی طرف سے کیا جائے۔ یاد رہے امریکا
 جنگ کو گزشتہ چاروں کے عوامی بیگانوں کے بعد امریکی مفکر کی فکر کے
 باقی دوسرے صفحہ پر

۸۰۰۰-۲۲۸

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محمد سکندر اپنے خلیج کے شاعر اکرم زہرا اری کے قریبی دوست جان کے جانتے ہیں

سیاحین قلعہ پر پاک بھارت

ہم سب سے کچھ دیر تک سوچا اور پھر یہ فیصلہ کر لیا کہ میں اس خطبہ کو (پیش) کرنے کا عرض سے خطاب کر رہے ہوں۔

[illegible]

اصلی کے گوشہ دروازہ اور قوسوں کو کھینچا تھا کہ وہاں کوئی مکتب نہ لگے۔
مراسلے کے ذریعے وہاں لکھی کتاب کو منظر کتاب کی فروخت میں پانچویں

ایادی کی اصناف

مفتی محمد اگست (پ) آئندہ چالیس سو سے آٹھ سو
 ایادی کی تصانیف کا مجموعہ کتاب چودہ سو روپے کا

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

هكذا من الجهل

افغان طالبان نے صدر نجیب کی امن تجویز مسترد کر دیں۔
 کابل، ۳۳ اگست (پ) ایف پی صدر نجیب اللہ نے کہا ہے کہ حکومت کو حکم نہیں ملے گا کہ امریکہ سے ایسے مذاکرات

[illegible]

لندن میں پاکستانی پائلٹ خاتون
فوجی اہلکاروں کے ساتھ مل کر

[illegible]

بلوچستان کے وزیر اعلیٰ اکبر بگٹی نے فرمایا کہ ۲۳ اگست (عرب ہائپر ریڈ) بلوچستان کے

[illegible]

جنگ ۱۳ اگست (راٹھ) میں کئی عسکران حملہ جھوٹے کے سینٹر
 دکنی ملک جنگ سے ملک میں حالیہ سے جتنی کا الزام پہلی اور
 کبھی کبھار کے ایک خطہ جھڑپوں کے مطابق کوئی اور ایک حربہ
 سے خطاب کرتے ہیں ملک جنگ سے کیا کو پانی کے انتظامی
 ممبر اور ان کے لئے کوئی خطہ جھڑپوں کے مطابق کوئی اور ایک حربہ
 سے خطاب کرتے ہیں ملک جنگ سے کیا کو پانی کے انتظامی

مذہبی ہے کہ کیسٹن ہائی کی طرف سے کیا جائے۔ یاد رہے امریکا
 جنگ کو گزشتہ چاروں کے عوامی بیگانوں کے بعد امریکی مفکر کی فکر کے
 باقی دوسرے صفحہ پر

۸۰۰۰-۲۲۸

10-10-68

SPORTS

Ryan reaches landmark total

Knepper and Mitchell take Giants past Mets

ARLINGTON, Texas, Aug. 23, (Reuters) Nolan Ryan, the Texas Rangers pitcher who is baseball's most remarkable power pitcher, thrilled a capacity crowd of 43,000 yesterday by striking out a landmark 5,000 batter to extend his all-time strikeout record.

Ryan, at 42 the oldest player in the Major League, whiffed Rickey Henderson in the fifth inning with a blistering fastball clocked at 96 mph (15.4 kph) to reach the milestone mark.

He went on to strike out 13 Oakland Athletics hitters but was a hard-luck loser as Texas fell 2-0.

"It was nice to get the teammates' congratulations and the fans' reception," the soft-spoken Ryan said with a slow smile when asked about the thunderous cheering that held up the game after his historic strikeout of Henderson.

"I'm very disappointed we lost," Ryan said. "But that is a reflection of why Oakland is where they are."

Ryan is in a class by himself among strikeout artists.

The rangy right-hander increased his strikeout total to 5,007 after his five-hit performance. Next on the all-time strikeout list is Steve Carlton, now retired, with 4,136. No current Major League pitcher is even halfway to Ryan's total.

Ryan said he had a short

exchange with Henderson after the fifth-inning strikeout.

"I had a quick word with him in the dugout. He didn't seem to be bitter. I told him somebody

had to be it and I'm sorry it was you," Ryan said. "There was not a whole lot he could say."

Asked about going for 6,000 strike outs, Ryan, who began his

career in 1966 with the New York Mets and later moved to the California Angels and Houston Astros, said: "I don't think I'll be around for it. I never be standing

here today."

Ryan, who keeps himself in top flight condition with an extraordinary exercise regimen, said he might return next year in pursuit of 300 career wins. He is now 13 shy.

There is another item also still on his wish list. A sixth no-hitter to go with the record five he has already thrown.

Meanwhile, Bob Knepper, signed as a free agent earlier this month, pitched a four-hitter and Kevin Mitchell became the first Giant in 20 years to hit 40 home runs in a season, leading San Francisco past the New York Mets 5-0.

Knepper, released by Houston on July 28 and signed by the injury-plagued Giants on Aug. 5, pitched his first complete game and shutout a one-hitter last Sept. 21 against Atlanta. Knepper, 6-11 pitched his sixth career shutout against the Mets and 30th overall.

Results

| American League | | National League | |
|-----------------|----|-----------------|---|
| Boston | 4 | New York | 2 |
| Baltimore | 4 | Milwaukee | 2 |
| Cleveland | 3 | Seattle | 1 |
| Toronto | 3 | Detroit | 1 |
| Chicago | 10 | Minnesota | 1 |
| Kansas City | 2 | California | 1 |
| Oakland | 2 | Texas | 0 |
| National League | | American League | |
| Cincinnati | 7 | Chicago | 2 |
| Montreal | 4 | Los Angeles | 1 |
| San Francisco | 5 | New York | 1 |
| Philadelphia | 4 | San Diego | 1 |
| Pittsburgh | 4 | Houston | 1 |
| St. Louis | 10 | Atlanta | 1 |



Nolan Ryan makes history as he strikes out Henderson with a fastball. (Reuters wirephoto).



Ryan waves to the crowd after striking out Henderson.

Disgraced star given conditional discharge

Official feared Johnson's coach

TORONTO, Aug. 23, (AP) The man responsible for making sure that Canadian athletes weren't taking steroids said he was afraid Ben Johnson's coach would beat him up if he tried to catch the sprinter with surprise drug tests.

"There were times that I physically feared for my safety," Tom MacWilliam said in an interview yesterday after testifying before the federal inquiry into drugs in amateur sports.

The inquiry was touched off when Johnson tested positive for steroids at the Seoul Olympics last summer and was stripped of his gold medal and a world record in the 100 metres.

As Johnson's image as the world's fastest man continued to grow, coach Charlie Francis and other teammates became too powerful for the association to control, he said.

"I was afraid of Charlie. He would go off the deep end in just a flash," said MacWilliam, who developed the anti-doping programme for the Canadian Track and Field Association in the early 1980s but severed his relationship with the organisation in 1987.

"I think he would have hit me, yeah, I was certainly afraid that he was going to."

Francis could not be reached for comment.

MacWilliam earlier told the inquiry he held off on surprise drug tests.

"I wasn't about to get into a physical confrontation with guys who were bigger than I am."

Outside the hearing, MacWilliam said besides physical violence, there were always threats of lawsuits.

"Anytime you pushed Francis in terms of trying to challenge what he was doing, he'd come back and say, 'you got any proof? If you don't got any proof, shut up and go away. Or I'm going to get a lawyer and sue you for false accusations.'"

Rolf Lund, head of the Ontario Track and Field Association, told the inquiry Monday he was threatened with lawsuits if he pursued rumours of steroid use by athletes at a sprint centre in Toronto, where Johnson trained.

MacWilliam blamed the association's board of directors, who paid Francis, for being blinded by Johnson's fame and failing to bring the growing steroid problem under control.

"They were afraid. They were intimidated to take any strong action," MacWilliam said.

"If the association would have had the guts, we could have put in a testing programme that would have made it unlikely Johnson would have ended up testing positive in Seoul."

Just after arriving home in Toronto, Johnson was charged

with assault and possession of a dangerous weapon for pointing a starter pistol at a driver on a busy highway.

He was given a conditional discharge and a year probation yesterday after pleading guilty to the assault charge. The weapons charge was dropped by the crown.

It was the latest of a series of misfortunes to dog Johnson since he was stripped of the Olympic gold medal.

The Jamaican-born Canadian may still be officially the world's fastest man after setting the world 100 metres record in Rome in 1987, but controversy has replaced the glamour.

According to published reports, the federal government has forced Johnson into a repayment schedule after it discovered he had not paid taxes for two years.

October soon after the Seoul Olympics when a motorist reported to police that he had been threatened with a gun by a man driving a black Porsche.

The license plate noted by the motorist matched Johnson's and a starter's pistol — a gun with a blocked barrel that fires blanks — was confiscated by police.

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S. Africans outclass World XV

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa, Aug. 23, (Reuters) A South African invitational team made all the running to humble a World XV 36-13 yesterday in the second match of the international side's controversial rugby union tour of the republic.

The South African President's XV repeatedly breached the international team's lacklustre defence and capitalised on elementary mistakes by their travel-weary players.

President's fullback Andre Joubert was the Man of the Match. He made amends for missing two conversions and several penalties by dropping a goal and scoring the third of the host side's six tries.

One consolation for the visitors, who relied heavily on several Welsh players who arrived only on Monday, was a brilliant display by Australian winger Ian Williams. He scored both tries, one of them after running the ball alone from his 10-metre line.

Williams, one of only two veterans from the touring side which won the first match of the tour last Saturday against Natal, looks certain to be selected for the first match against the Springboks in Cape Town on Saturday.

The World XV fell behind five minutes into the match when Joubert split the posts with a perfectly taken penalty.

Lock Rudi Visagie scored the first try after 10 minutes, driving through after the South Africans had won a lineout. Joubert converted and, in the 25th minute, added a drop goal.

But Williams' two tries — only one of which was converted by Welshman Paul Thorburn — came shortly afterwards to leave the home side just 12-10 ahead at halftime.

Palace hold United Arsenal beat Coventry

LONDON, Aug. 23, (Reuters) Champions Arsenal collected their first points of the new English soccer season with title hero Michael Thomas inspiring them to a 2-0 home win over Coventry yesterday.

Thomas, whose last-gasp goal clinched the First Division crown for Arsenal at Liverpool in May, secured the points six minutes from time after the Londoners had paraded the League trophy around their Highbury home — and then played like anything but champions.

Winger Brian Marwood hit the first four minutes after the interval after Arsenal, thrashed 4-1 at Manchester United in the opening round of matches on Saturday, struggled to shake off their championship celebration hangover in the first half.

United's flying start to the season was checked by their former England winger Steve Coppell, whose newly-promoted Crystal Palace side grabbed an 89th minute equaliser for a share of the points.

England captain Bryan Robson scored his first goal of the season to put United ahead in the 19th minute. But striker Ian Wright lashed home the equaliser to give manager Coppell and a huge crowd at Selhurst Park something to celebrate on Palace's return to the top flight after an eight-year absence.

New boy Mike Newell marked his home debut for Everton with a goal after just 97 seconds to help his side to a 2-1 win over big-spending Tottenham while full-back Ian Dawes struck with just a few seconds left to complete Millwall's remarkable recovery against east London rivals Charlton.

| English Division One | | English Division Two | |
|----------------------|---|----------------------|---|
| Arsenal | 2 | Coventry | 0 |
| Chelsea | 1 | Q.P.R. | 1 |
| Crystal P. | 1 | Manchester U. | 1 |
| Everton | 2 | Tottenham | 1 |
| Luton | 1 | Sheffield Wed. | 0 |
| Millwall | 2 | Charlton | 2 |
| Division Two | | Division Three | |
| Bournemouth | 1 | West Bromwich | 1 |
| Oldham | 1 | Walsford | 1 |
| Sunderland | 2 | Ipswich | 4 |

Rose a father again

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Aug. 23, (Reuters) Cincinnati Reds manager Pete Rose, who is battling gambling charges that could end his career, took a break from baseball worries yesterday to spend the day with his wife as she gave birth to their second child.

Rose, who holds the record for most hits in a career, flew back from Chicago where the Reds were playing the Cubs. Cincinnati won 7-2 without him.

Carol Rose gave birth to a daughter yesterday afternoon, Jewish Hospital reported. The couple already have a five-year-old son while Rose has two children by a previous marriage, including a son who plays Minor

League baseball.

For much of this year Rose has been fighting to keep baseball commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti from holding a disciplinary hearing into allegations that he bet on game, including some involving his own team. If the latter charge is proved, Rose could be banished from the game for life.

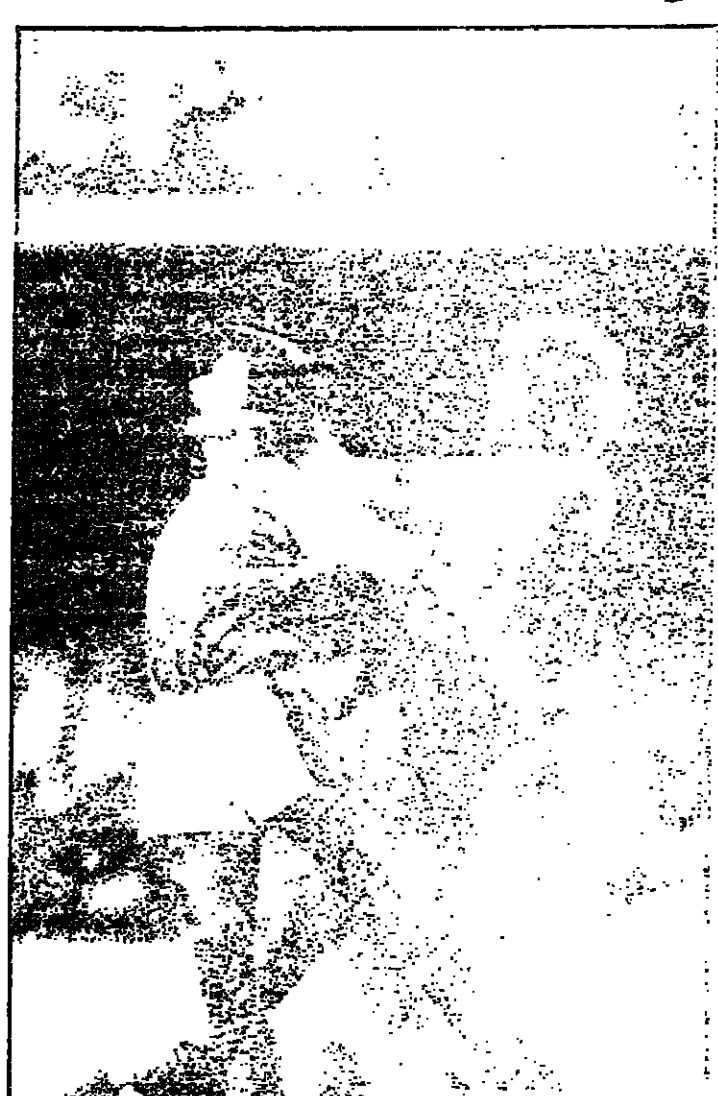
A federal judge in Columbus, Ohio, is scheduled to hold a hearing next week on Rose's request for an order to block Giamatti from holding the gambling inquiry. Rose contends the commissioner has already prejudged him as guilty.

Seirawan beats Korchnoi

SKELLEFTEA, Aug. 23, (AP) After a marathon 118-move battle, Yasser Seirawan of the United States yesterday defeated Swiss grandmaster Viktor Korchnoi in their adjourned game from the seventh round of the Chess World Cup.

In the other game played yesterday, former world champion Mikhail Tal of the Soviet Union drew his postponed eighth round game with Yugoslavia's Predrag Nikolic in 19 moves.

Although Seirawan had adjourned Sunday a pawn ahead in an endgame with kings, queens and pawns, commentators had



Arsenal's Alan Smith (left) and Coventry's Brian Marwood (right) competing for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto).

| Scottish League Cup (third round) | | Celtic | |
|---|---|------------------|---|
| Celtic | 2 | Queen's P. | 0 |
| Hibernian | 0 | Clydebank | 0 |
| Hibernian won 5-3 on penalties | | after extra time | |
| English Football League Cup (first round first leg) | | Celtic | |
| Birmingham | 2 | Sheffield U. | 1 |
| Blackpool | 1 | Barnley | 2 |
| Bristol City | 1 | Reading | 1 |
| Cambridge | 3 | Maidstone | 1 |
| Cardiff | 0 | Phymouth | 3 |
| Colchester | 3 | Southend | 4 |

Taiwan blast Dhafran in World Series

WILLIAMSPORT, Pennsylvania, Aug. 23, (AP) Hsu Ming-Lun's Grand Slam paced an eight-run second inning as Kaohsiung, Taiwan, defeated Dhafran, Saudi Arabia, 9-4, in the Little League World Series.

Yen Chen-Lung added a three-run homer in the Kaohsiung second as Far East champions brought 14 boys to the plate in yesterday's opening round.

In another game yesterday, Andy Paul hit a solo home run to lead off the fifth inning, sparking a two-run rally as Trumbull, Connecticut, defeated Davenport, Iowa, 4-3.

Dhafran, mostly Americans with parents in the oil business, is playing in its third consecutive Little League World Series, which includes four US regional champions and the Far East, Canadian, European and Latin American champions. Little Leaguers in the series are 11- and 12-years-old.

Wiesbaden, Germany, was the last town to field three consecutive teams in the World Series, from 1968-70. Monterrey, Mexico, had five consecutive teams in the series from 1961-64.

Kaohsiung won its previous two appearances in 1974 and 1977.

expected the game to end in a draw.

Korchnoi, a veteran 58-year-old grandmaster who defected from the Soviet Union in 1975, cracked near the end of the six-hour playing session. He resigned when Seirawan forced the exchange of queens and reached an easy winning position.

The World Cup, a series of six tournaments featuring a total prize fund of \$1.2 million, is regarded as the second most important chess event after the individual world championship cycle.

Sort out ban row, court tells BCCI

NEW DELHI, Aug. 23, (Reuters) India's supreme court today told the country's cricket authorities to sort out a row over their ban on six Test stars, but said it might get involved if no solution was found.

"If there is any possibility of solving this issue instead of the parties fighting the case in court, then the court should be explored. Let us get on with the game of cricket," said Chief Justice E.S. Venkataramiah.

But he told lawyer Vinod Kumar, who was attempting to get the bans overturned, that supreme court might consider the punishments if the issue were not settled by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI).

The BCCI imposed one-year bans on six players, including Test captain Dilip Vengsarkar and all-rounder Kapil Dev, for playing unauthorised matches in North America after an official tour of the West Indies earlier this year.

The players first argued by pleading for money, but then contested the bans, saying that their contracts forbade them from playing unofficial matches only in South Africa.

Kumar, a former Delhi cricketer, brought the case on his own and was not acting for the players.

Kiwis to tour England

LONDON, Aug. 23, (Reuters) New Zealand will play eight one-day matches on their three-month cricket tour of England and Ireland next year, it was announced here today.

The emphasis on limited overs cricket comes during the first month of the tour, culminating in

two one-day games against England. The Kiwis will also play nine three-day matches.

The New Zealanders will play three Tests against England — at Trent Bridge from June 7 to 12, Lords from June 21-23 and 5-11, and a final Test at



Wasim got career-best figures

Wasim lifts Lancashire past Yorkshire

Pakistani bowler takes 10 for 95

LONDON, Aug. 23, (Reuters) Pakistan Test bowler Wasim Akram completed career-best figures for 10 for 95 yesterday to spur Lancashire to their first county championship victory over Yorkshire at Old Trafford since 1980.

Wasim and Paul Allott made light of the absence of fellow seam bowler Phillip DeFreitas, forced out of the attack because of hamstring trouble, to fire out Yorkshire for 148.

Allott caused the early damage with a spell of three for 24 as Yorkshire chased a target of 330. Then Wasim took over condemning Yorkshire to a fifth defeat in their last six championship matches by taking five for 51.

Championship contenders Middlesex also scored a comfortable victory over Sussex at Hastings despite losing England fast medium bowler Angus Fraser early in the day with a knee injury.

Neil Williams and Simon Hughes each took three wickets as Sussex were dismissed for 216 in their second innings.

Middlesex, set 96 for victory, cruised home by nine wickets and closed to within 21 points of championship leaders Worces-

tershire.

Opener Graeme Clinton, who made 84, and wicketkeeper Alec Stewart, with 77, helped Surrey to a rousing four-wicket victory over Leicestershire at Grace Road.

The pair put on 133 for the second wicket in 38 overs after Surrey had been set 296 in 92 overs. They reached their target with only seven balls to spare.

Results

At Taunton: Somerset beat Hampshire by eight wickets. Hampshire 257 in 106.1 overs and 138 (J. Wood 55 not out). Somerset 303 for eight declared in 88.3 overs and 93 for two (C. Tavaré 46 not out). Somerset 23 points Hampshire 55.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire beat Yorkshire by 181 runs. Lancashire 293 in 100.5 overs and 228 for three declared (G. Mendis 103 not out, M. Watkinson 51 not out). Yorkshire 192 in 88.5 overs and 148 (R. Blakey 62, Wasim Akram five for 51). Lancashire 23 points Yorkshire 5.

At Hastings: Middlesex beat Sussex by nine wickets. Sussex 249 in 108 overs and 216 (A. Wells 51, P. Moores 50). Middlesex 370 in 102.1 overs and 97 for one (D. Haynes 46 not out).

At Canterbury: Kent beat Glamorgan by 101 runs. Kent 372 for nine declared and 218 for four declared (T. Ward 78 not out, C. Cowdrey 53). Glamorgan 311 in 92.5 overs and 178 (H. Morris 68, A. Butcher 46, A. Igglesden four for 58, R. Davis four for 57). Kent 24 points Glamorgan 6.

At Leicester: Surrey beat Leicestershire by four wickets. Leicestershire 297 in 99.2 overs and 182 (P. Whiticase 47, M. Frost five for 40). Surrey 184 in 63 overs and 296 for six (G. Clinton 84, A. Stewart 77, G. Thorpe 43). Surrey 21 points Leicestershire 7.

Standings

English County Championship cricket table after matches which ended yesterday (tablets under played, won, lost, drawn, batting points, bowling, total):

Worcestershire 19 10 3 0 40 73 273

Essex 19 11 1 7 49 29 259

Middlesex 19 9 2 8 42 66 252

Hampshire 19 6 6 7 48 60 204

Northants 20 6 8 6 44 99 199

Lancashire 19 6 5 8 46 57 195

Notts 19 6 3 8 47 57 175

Warwickshire 18 4 10 38 62 172

Gloucestershire 18 5 9 4 33 56 169

Surrey 18 4 5 9 39 60 163

Derbyshire 18 4 5 9 37 59 160

Somerset 19 4 11 47 48 159

Leicestershire 18 3 7 8 36 60 144

Sussex 19 3 8 45 46 139

Yorkshire 18 2 4 12 49 55 136

Glamorgan 19 3 7 9 36 50 134

Kent 19 2 5 12 34 54 120

SPORTS BRIEFS

Hamlet Cup

JERICHO, N.Y., Aug. 23. (Reuters): Jarryd both started their final lineup for the US Open on the right note by scoring first-round victories yesterday in the \$154,000 Hamlet Challenge Cup tennis tournament.

Davin triumphs

SAN MARINO, Aug. 23. (AP): Third-seeded Franco Davin of Argentina survived a second-set scare yesterday on his way to a 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 victory against Czechoslovak Cyril Suk in a first-round match of the \$123,500 San Marino clay-court tennis tournament.

Positive test

LONDON, Aug. 23. (AP): The governing body of world track and field denied today a report in the Times of London that a competitor had tested positive for drugs at the European Cup in Gateshead, England, earlier this month.

Yugoslav star

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 23. (Reuters): The Portland Trail Blazers reached agreement with Spanish basketball club Real Madrid clearing the way for Yugoslavian star Drazen Petrovic to join the National Basketball Association team, Portland announced yesterday.

Mariners sold

SEATTLE, Wash., Aug. 23. (Reuters): Seattle Mariners owner George Argyros announced yesterday that he has agreed to sell the American League baseball team to a group of businessmen from Indianapolis, Indiana. The sale of the 13-year-old franchise, for a reported \$70 million, is subject to approval by Major League Baseball.

Political asylum

HONG KONG, Aug. 23. (AP): A top Chinese swimmer announced today he is seeking political asylum in Hong Kong because of his activity in support of the crushed pro-democracy movement in China. Yang Yang, 20, said he feared he would be arrested if he returned home.

\$575,000 deal

LONDON, Aug. 23. (Reuters): English First Division club Tottenham signed Everton's Welsh international Pat van den Hauwe today in a \$575,000 (\$903,000) deal.

Appeal rejected

ZURICH, Switzerland, Aug. 23. (AP): World soccer's ruling body, FIFA, today rejected an appeal by Chile to let it host a crucial World Cup qualifier against Venezuela and ruled the match should be played in Argentina.

Surprise win

YORK, England, Aug. 23. (Reuters): Under an inspired ride from veteran Willie Carson, Roseate Tern landed her first Group One race in a surprise win over the 2-1 on favourite Alydres in the Yorkshire Oaks horse race today.

World record

KOBLENZ, West Germany, Aug. 23. (Reuters): An American quartet from the Santa Monica Track Club set an unofficial 4x200 metres relay world best of one minute 19.37 seconds at the Koblenz international athletics meeting today. The team of Carl Lewis, Danny Everett, Leroy Burrell and Floyd Heard bettered the mark of 1:20.26 set by the University of Southern California in Tempe, Arizona, in May 1978.

Equestrian events

DUISBURG, West Germany, Aug. 23. (Reuters): Spain will not be allowed to stage equestrian events at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics unless the latest outbreak of African horse plague is brought under control by October next year.

Time trial

CHAMBERY, France, Aug. 23. (AP): The Soviet Union edged defending champion Italy today in the women's time trial of the world cycling championships with less than a second deciding the gold medal.

Cacoethes beaten

YORK, England, Aug. 23. (Reuters): He de Dhypre, a 16-1 outsider, beat highly fancied stable companion Cacoethes, the 5-1 on favourite, to win the Group One International Stakes on yesterday in a record time for the race.

Tyson rematch

NEW YORK, Aug. 23. (Reuters): Carl Williams must knock out a few good fighters before he deserves even consideration for a rematch with Mike Tyson, who stopped Williams in 93 seconds of the first round last month, a spokesman for promoter Don King said yesterday.

Police find no evidence of plot against Maradona

NAPLES, Italy, Aug. 23. (Reuters): Italian police said on Wednesday there was no evidence that Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona's home in Naples or his car had been damaged during his prolonged holiday in Argentina.

Maradona, the highest paid player in Italy, says he has been harassed in Naples and will not go back to the city's Napoli soccer club unless they guarantee his safety.

Club officials confirmed today that they were starting disciplinary procedures against the Argentine World Cup captain but denied they were looking for a replacement for him.

Local police, who examined a statement made by Maradona in Argentina yesterday claiming there was a plot against him, ruled out any possibility that Naples Mafia had threatened the player.

Naples police chief Antonio Barrell told reporters: "From the inquiries we have made, we can rule out any threat by organised crime against the player."

Napoli general manager Luciano Moggi said: "I can assure Maradona that he will find in Naples a civil environment. All of us here, from the first to the last soccer fan, want Maradona."

Moggi firmly scotched Italian press reports that the UEFA Cup holders were looking for a new foreign player to replace 28-year-old Maradona, who has a contract with the club until 1993.

But he said Napoli's hardline attitude had not changed because of Maradona's statement, which broke a long silence and followed the unexplained cancellation of three bookings for flights back to Italy.

Evert to quit serious competition

TORONTO, Aug. 23. (Reuters): Tennis superstar Chris Evert, who burst onto the tennis scene as a 16-year-old at the 1971 US Open, says she will retire from serious competition after the 1989 US Open, which starts next week.

Evert, in an interview published by Sports Illustrated magazine, said she would represent the United States in October's Federation Cup in

Tokyo and would play a series of exhibition matches against Martina Navratilova.

Evert made her debut in 1969 and turned professional in 1972. She entered this season with a career record of 137 singles titles and won at least one Grand Slam event every year from 1974 through 1986.

She said she was also looking forward to married

life with Andy Mill, whom she wed in July 1988.

Martina Navratilova, Evert's chief rival over the years, was asked how she felt about Evert leaving the game.

"It would be hard for me to play her in her last tournament. I want her to do well but I still want to win," Navratilova said.

Navratilova fights back

Grossman stuns Lindqvist



Sabatini stares at the ball before returning it to Rinaldi. (Reuters wirephoto)

TORONTO, Aug. 23. (Reuters): Martina Navratilova regained control of her powerful serve just in time to beat Gigi Fernandez of Puerto Rico and join the list of seeds to advance at the Canadian Open tennis championships.

Navratilova, the top seeded, double-faulted twice to go down a break in the final set before turning it around for a 3-6, 6-1, 6-3 victory to reach the third round.

Six other seeded players, including defending champion Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, posted straight-set victories at the \$300,000 tournament.

The lone seeded casualty was number eight Catarina Lindqvist of Sweden, a Wimbledon semifinalist, who was eliminated 1-6, 4-6, 4-6 by American teenager Ann Grossman.

The combination of slower courts, difficulty seeing the ball at twilight and the hot-hitting of Fernandez kept Navratilova on the defensive for long stretches.

"I was swinging too early, missing because I was swinging too soon," a relieved Navratilova said.

Trailing 3-1 in the final set, Navratilova managed to solve her technical problems just as the 25-year-old Fernandez started to fade.

After pulling even at 3-3, Navratilova conceded just three

points in the last three games. Grossman, who played with an injured toe, trailed Lindqvist 6-1, 3-0 before switching tactics to considerable advantage.

Instead of hitting all-out, Grossman began concentrating on keeping the ball in play — sometimes by deliberately looping balls high into the air to slow down the pace and break up the fluid Lindqvist's rhythm.

Pressed by the speedy Grossman, Lindqvist began missing shots and quickly found herself on the losing end.

"I gutted out this match," said Grossman, who at number 46 is ranked 29 places below Lindqvist.

"I was being a wimp in the first set. I let my toe bother me instead of blocking it out."

Lindqvist's exit opened up the bottom half of the draw for fourth-seeded French Open champion Arantxa Sanchez of Spain, who had been seeded to play the Swede in the quarters.

In other matches, the second-seeded Sabatini beat American Kathy Rinaldi 6-3, 6-2.

The Argentine teenager's projected quarterfinal opponent, fifth-seeded Czechoslovak Jan Novotna, was even more impressive in beating Frenchwoman Karine Quentrec 6-1, 6-3.

BRIDGE

THE following are results of Sheraton Bridge Club's game held on Tuesday.

N/S: 1. Mesdani & Bayoumi; 2. Shah & Zubair; 3. Salman & Meouchi E/W:

1. Ravi & Mukherjee; 2. Heneidi & Ahmed Tawil; Sapre & Aurora.

Results of the Westminster System-17 game held at the Regency Palace on Sunday, Aug. 13:

1. Abedin & Jaggi; 2. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah; 3. Sherin Bayoumi & Carsten Bus.

Results of the Westminster System-17 game held at the Regency Palace on Sunday, Aug. 20:

1. Sherin Bayoumi & Ahmed Heneidi; 2. Adil Bayoumi & Mohammed El Baz; 3. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah.

Igglesden and Pringle get call

LONDON, Aug. 23. (AP): Kent fast bowler Alan Igglesden and Essex's Derek Pringle were chosen today as the players to answer England's bowling crisis for the sixth and final Test match against Australia starting tomorrow at the Oval.

England was robbed of the services of Angus Fraser (knee injury), Philip Defreitas (hamstring) and first-choice replacement Greg Thomas, who announced his intention yesterday to join the rebel tour of South Africa next winter.

Igglesden, 24, will be making his first appearance as the 31st player to join England's ranks during a disastrous Ashes series, and the 38th man to earn a call-up in 12 Test matches.

Australia has already won the current series, leading 4-0, with one game drawn.

Pringle, 30, was dropped after this summer's first Test following another disappointing performance at

international level. But he has enjoyed considerable success with Essex and is the nation's leading England-qualified wicket-taker this season with 82 victims.

Igglesden and Pringle in effect represent England's eighth and ninth choices. The team has lost regulars Graham Dilley and Neil Foster to the South Africa tour, along with Thomas and Paul Jarvis, while Devon Malcolm, who played in the fifth Test, joins Fraser and Defreitas on the injured list.

Defreitas, the rebel who changed his mind, was forced to drop out only 24 hours after becoming drafted into the side in place of Malcolm.

"I don't think it's very serious," he said. "But I wouldn't want to risk it in a Test match and make a fool of myself."

Faiznur wins five golds at SEA Games

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug. 23. (KUNA): Fourteen-year-old Faiznur Miskin of Malaysia became the darling of the nation after her sensational five-gold medal haul in rhythmic gymnastics in the ongoing 15th SEA Games here.

Her victories in the rope, hoop, ball and ribbon events were a bonus for surprised Malaysian gymnastics officials who predicted only one gold from the sport.

Faiznur's victories also made her richer by \$5,000 donated by several Malaysian sports bodies.

"I am overjoyed," said Faiznur, who captured the hearts of the 1,000-strong crowd, including several of her school mates who came in force to cheer her.

"These are my happiest moments. I will remember them for a long time," said the form two girl fighting back tears.

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